SELECTIONS

FROM

THE RECORDS

OF THE

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

No. XXXIX.—PART I.

PAPERS

RELATING TO

THE DISTURBANCES

IN THE

COSSYAH AND JYNTEEAH HILLS.

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PART I.

PAPERS

RELATING TO

THE DISTURBANCES

IN THE

COSSYAH AND JYNTEEAH HILLS.

No. I.

From MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Commissioner of Assam, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 691, dated the 5th December 1861.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit, herewith, a communication from the Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, reporting on the state of the public mind in that District, and recommending the location of a small body of European Troops in them; but as I have previously reported we cannot put Europeans at Shillong until we have a Road to connect it with Assam.

From MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor-General, and Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 339½, dated the 21st November 1861.)

SIR,

WITH reference to the concluding paragraph of your Circular, No. 656, dated the 14th instant, I have the honor to report that outwardly the people of these Hills do not shew any signs of discontent or disaffection at the present time. I, however, from sources of information which I have no reason to doubt, feel sure that it requires very little to excite them into open opposition to the enforcement of taxation, and

that the imposition of any new taxes would be sure to be attended with serious consequences, unless a small body of European Troops was first located in these Hills, which, for the safety of the frontier in general, I am of opinion, should not be longer delayed.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 6A., dated the 3rd January 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of Mr. Junior Secretary Gordon's letter No. 3138A., dated the 19th ultimo, I am directed to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a communication* from the Commissioner of Assam, with its enclosure from the Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, reporting on the state of the public mind in that District, and recommending the location of a small body of European Troops in those Hills; and I am to state that a confidential letter has been written to Major Hopkinson with reference to the question of taxation.

* No. 691, dated 5th December 1861.

From R. ABERCROMBIE, ESQ., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 7, dated the 20th January 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, copy of a letter *just received from the Officiating Joint Magistrate of Sylhet in charge of the Magistrate's Office, reporting that there were grounds for apprehending a descent of the Cossyahs upon the Plains.

* No. 37, dated the 16th instant.

2. The measures adopted by that Officer appear under the Circumstances to be all that are required, and I have requested him to keep me daily informed of what transpires, which shall be duly reported to you.

3. I do not deem it at present advisable to recommend the despatch of more Troops from this to Sylhet, the Joint Magistrate not appearing to consider them required; but I have intimated to the Officer Commanding the Station that it may be necessary to send up a Detachment of his men and to be in readiness to answer any call that may be made upon him.

4. Should matters assume a more serious aspect, I will not fail to communicate them to you by Telegraph.

5. I am informed that there are at present at Sylhet a Company of the East India Regiment composed of thirty-five effective men, and some fifty or sixty of the Sylhet Light Infantry which ought to be ample to provide for the safety of the Station, and, you will observe, Mr. Smith states that reinforcements are expected.

From T. SMITH, ESQ., Officiating Joint Magistrate in charge of Sylhet, to the Commissioner of Circuit, Dacca Division,—(No. 37, dated the 16th January 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for your information, that I received on the 14th ultimo, a report from the Darogah of Thannah Moolagool to the following effect:—

2. A Chowkeedar gave information at that Thannah that he had overheard certain Cossyahs speaking among themselves of assembling at a festival to be held on the 15th, with the view of making a descent into the Plain on the 15th or 16th.

3. Any other information I have been hitherto able to collect, induces me to believe that there may be something in this story. The Naib Darogah of Parcool, when out in the District, met a Brahmin returning from Jynteeahpore who mentioned that a descent was apprehended by the people of that place. Most reprehensibly the Naib Darogah did not bring the man at once before me, and it would now be too late to send for him.

4. From Cherra I have received no Official information, but from private communications I believe the people about Jowai Poonjee, where there is, or was a Military Guard, and a Thannah are thought likely to give trouble.

5. Avoiding any hasty measures which would be certain to cause panic I have confined myself to the despatch of picked Police Officers as Scouts on the different roads leading out of the Station, and to establishing an extra Dâk on the road to the threatened Thannah.

6. I had this morning an interview with the Ex-Rajah of Jynteeah whom, while assuring him that no doubt whatever was entertained of his

personal loyalty, I warned that should any out-break occur, he would in all probability be sent under arrest to Dacca or Calcutta, unless he could shew that he had exerted himself on behalf of Government, by giving information or otherwise. I did not communicate to him any detailed information, but spoke generally of a Cossyah rising as a thing not improbable considering they had indulged in none last year.

7. There are no Troops here available for what would, I am convinced, be of much service, a demonstration towards Jynteeahpore; but reinforcements are expected, and I would deprecate, as an unnecessary expense to Government, the despatch of any Troops from Dacca, who could not arrive till after the matter had been decided one way or the other. You will be duly informed of any thing which may occur, or of any ulterior measure which may be taken.

P. S.—Since the above was written I have heard that considerable apprehension prevails at Jynteeahpore, and that the Bazar people are secreting their valuables, taking alarm at the sudden decrease of Cossyahs frequenting the Bazar.

Telegram from Commissioner of Dacca,—(dated the 24th January 1862.)

Joint Magistrate of Sylhet writes:—Jynteeah Darogah reports on morning of 20th, a hurkara arrived, Thannah Jowai, in Cossyah Hills jurisdiction, with a letter from Police Officer stationed there, stating that disturbances had commenced at Jowai, from which place to Cherra dâk road closed, and that, in taking letter from Jowai to Jynteeah, he had been twice interrupted, and dâk taken from him. Jynteeah Darogah had heard that some Cossyahs of Jowai, trading at Jynteeah, told shop-keepers in Bazar that disturbances, or as he said, war had commenced. Shop-keepers at Jynteeah are alarmed, because Cossyahs had not frequented the Bazar, and were hiding their property, and sending away their families. Joint Magistrate considers Station safe, but in event of descent of Cossyahs, fears damage to Bazars in Jynteeah District and Tea Plantations. Shall I send Detachment of East Indian Regiment to Sylhet? Khajeh Abdool Gunny's Steamer could tow up thirty men in boats in four or

five days. Native Troops could then move into District. Shall I accompany Force to Sylhet?

Telegram from Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Dacca,—(dated the 24th January 1862.)

YOUR message of to-day received. Ask for the Detachment you mention to proceed forthwith to Sylhet in Abdool Gunny's Steamer. For the present you had better yourself stay at Dacca.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department,—(No. 188A., dated the 25th January 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to forward, for submission to His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter, No. 7, dated the 20th instant, from the Commissoner of Dacca, as well as copies of the Telegrams noted on the margin, relative to a threatened descent of the Cossyahs into the Plains of Sylhet, and to request the early issue of such orders to the Military Authorities on the Frontier as the occasion may seem to the Government of India to require.

Telegram to Commissioner of Dacca, dated 24th January 1862.
Telegram from Commissioner of Dacca, dated 24th January 1862.
Telegram to Commissioner of Dacca, dated 24th January 1862.

From R. ABERCROMBIE, ESQ., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 10, dated the 24th January 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, the accompanying copy of a letter* just received from the Officiating Joint Magistrate of Sylhet in charge of the Magistrate's Office, reporting further upon the threatened descent of the Cossyahs on the Plains.

* No. 43, dated 21st January 1862.

2. The purport of this letter has been already conveyed to you in my Telegram of this morning, in which I suggested that a Detachment of the East Indian Regiment should be at once dispatched to Sylhet for the protection of the Station. This will enable the Officer to send the Native Troops into the District, and prevent, if possible, the

plundering of the Jynteeah Bazars and Tea Plantations which Mr. Smith appears to dread.

3. I propose to send up the Detachment in boats towed by Khajeh Abdool Gunny's Steamer, which he has placed at my disposal for the purpose. It is only a small Vessel, but has sufficient power to tow four boats of about 250 maunds each, in which thirty men could be accommodated. She would reach Sylhet in four or five days, half the time that it would take boats to go that distance. These thirty men, with the thirty-five of the same Regiment already at Sylhet, would be ample for the safety of the Station.

4. I also propose, should His Honor consider it advisable, to accompany the Force to Sylhet in order to be on the spot, and superintend the arrangements which it may be necessary to make for the protection of the District and safety of the Station.

From T. SMITH, ESQ., Officiating Joint Magistrate, in charge, Sylhet, to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 43, dated the 21st January 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my letter No. 37 of the 6th ultimo, I have the honor to report, for your information, that I have received, on the 20th, after the dispatch of the Dacca Dâk, a Report from the Darogah of Thannah Jynteeah of that day's date to the following effect:—

2. On the morning of that day a hurkara arrived from Thannah Jowai, in the Cossyah Hill's jurisdiction, bringing a letter from the Police Officer stationed there, and the dâk for Cherra Poonjee. This man stated that disturbance or "War," as he expressed it, had commenced at Jowai, and that the dâk road from thence to Cherra was closed; that, in attempting to take letters from Jowai to Jynteeah, he had been twice intercepted, and the dâk taken from him; and that he had at last only succeeded by passing through the jungle.

3. A letter of the Jynteeah Darogah to the Officer at Sylhet, which, agreeably to his desire, was shewn to me, contained some further information. The Darogah was informed that certain Cossyahs of Jowai, trading at Jynteeah, told Shop-keepers in the Bazar that disturbance had commenced, adding "it is bad for us and bad for you." The Darogah sent for them, but could not procure their attendance. The fact that

the Cossyahs had not, according to their wont, frequented the Bazar, held every nine days at Jynteeah, had caused much alarm there, and the Shop-keepers were hiding their property and sending away their families.

4. It was impossible to organize a dâk on the night when I received the intelligence. No one here will go at night on account of the tigers, but I have made arrangements for keeping up rapid communications with Jynteeah in future. It may possibly be necessary to employ some mounted Expresses; but the necessity does not appear yet, and I will incur no charge that is not absolutely necessary. The Darogah of Jynteeah has been instructed, if he can possibly get hold of the Jowai men abovementioned, to send them in at once to me for examination.

5. The affair may probably come to nothing; but still I trust you will consider me justified in the steps I have taken and propose to take. I can at present do nothing, but endeavor to procure intelligence. A Company of Sepoys sent for from Cachar are now overdue, and until their arrival, it is impossible to act owing to the scanty Force which the late reduction in the Regiment has left available at Sylhet.

In any forward movement it would be necessary to occupy Thannah Gowineghat and Moolagool, to prevent the Cossyahs getting into the rear of the principal Force at Jynteeah.

6. I have communicated with some of the Planters here, and they have promised to supply me with Coolies, if necessary, for the transport of supplies, &c.

7. The Station itself, or at least the Treasury, Jail, Cutcherries, and Magazine may be considered safe enough even in case of a descent of 2 or 3,000 men; but should such take place, I fear much damage will be done in the various Bazars of the Jynteeah District, and possibly to the Tea Plantations also.

8. As I may possibly receive further information in the course of the day, and perhaps be able to report the arrival of the Troops from Cachar, I shall not close this letter till just as the dâk is being made up.

No. 232A.

Copy forwarded to the Government of India, in the Home Department, in continuation of letter No. 206A., dated 27th instant.

From R. Abercrombie, Esq., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 13, dated the 26th January 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, a letter, in original, received this morning from the Officiating Joint Magistrate of Sylhet, in charge of the Magistrate's Office, on the subject of the threatened descent of the Cossyahs upon that District, an abstract of which has been already submitted in a Telegram this morning.

2. His Honor will perceive that the want of Native Troops is much felt. Europeans would be almost useless, owing to the difficulty of providing a Commissariat for them in the Hills and Jungles. I have at present no Native Troops at my disposal, except the Left Wing of the Kamroops at Furreedpore, and it would take at least three days for them to reach Dacca before they could be dispatched to Sylhet, where they would arrive too late for the present crisis.

3. It is, however, a matter worthy of future consideration whether the Native Force at Sylhet ought not to be strengthened to provide against similar emergencies. The Sylhet Light Infantry, or 44th Regiment, appear to be detached in bodies at Cherra, Cachar, and other Outposts, thus leaving only a small party at Sylhet for Guard duties.

4. The Detachment of the East India Regiment started last evening.

From T. Smith, Esq., Officiating Joint Magistrate, in charge, Sylhet, to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 49, dated the 23rd January 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter No. 44 of the 20th.

2. In my letter No. 43 of the 21st, I had the honor to inform you of certain reports from Thannah Jynteeah. These reports are now confirmed. I was shewn a letter addressed to the Officer Commanding the 44th Native Infantry Detachment here, from which it appears that the Jemadar's Guard at Jowai was attacked on the 17th by some 600 men, forty of whom are supposed to have muskets. Till an actual descent takes place I cannot hope for any further intelligence of what is passing in the Hills, except from Cherra, as the Passes from Jynteeah to Amwye and elsewhere are closed.

3. There is a floating rumour in the Bazar that the attacked party has been destroyed, but I am not much disposed to credit it.

4. I have desired the Jynteeah Darogah to prevent any suspicious persons from obtaining supplies of provisions at Jynteeah, and have absolutely interdicted thesale of Arms or combustibles in that District.

5. With reference to the 2nd paragraph of your letter, I still think that any Troops dispatched from Dacca would come too late for the present crisis. But generally there is an urgent want of Troops, not Europeans, for whom it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to provide a Commissariat in the Hills and Jungles, but more Natives.

6. The reinforcement mentioned in my former letters has now come to hand, but the whole Force may be roughly stated as seventy present for duty, seventeen on Regimental, and twenty-five on Jail Guards, and fifteen miscellaneous. There are only some forty-five East Indians, of whom nine are always on the main Guard.

7. I have this day addressed a letter to the Officer Commanding the Station, offering to relieve the Commissariat and Hospital Guards by extra Burkundauzes, but protesting against the withdrawal of the Jail Guard' at present. No mischief the Hillmen can do would be comparable to that ensuing from the escape of over 400 Prisoners.

8. I have also requested him to inform me whether, in his opinion, any men could, with safety to the Station, be spared for a movement on Jynteeah, which I think highly desirable.

9. Were reinforcements available at Cachar, and not at Dacca, I should certainly apply, as, in the event of the parties sent out to Jynteeah getting blockaded, there would be no reserve in the Station to relieve them, but in such an event all would be over before the Troops could come from Dacca.

10. I have already communicated all I know to the Authorities at Cherra, as directed in the 3rd paragraph of your letter under reply.

11. The Cossyah Coolies in the Plantations are a source of much uneasiness to me from their proximity to the Station. I have requested the Planters to let me know the slightest unusual circumstance which may occur.

12. The direction conveyed in your concluding paragraph will be duly attended to, and I shall keep my daily letters open till just as the post is closing.

From R. ABERCROMBIE, ESQ., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 14, dated the 27th January 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my letter of yesterday's date, No. 13, I have the honor to forward, for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, copy of a letter* received this morning from the Officiating Joint Magistrate of Sylhet, in charge of the Magistrate's Office, reporting that he has received no fresh intelligence relative to the disturbance in the Cossyah Hills.

* Dated 24th January 1862.

2. The purport of this letter has been already communicated to you in a message by Electric Telegraph.

3. I hope to-morrow's post will bring intelligence of the despatch of the small Force to Jynteeah and Gowineghât, which cannot fail to have a good effect in deterring the Cossyahs, should they really meditate a descent upon the Plains.

From T. SMITH, ESQ., Officiating Joint Magistrate, in charge of the Sylhet Magistrate's Office, to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(dated the 24th January 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my previous letters relative to the disturbance in the Cossyah Hills, I have the honor to inform you that, since closing my letter of yesterday, I have received no fresh intelligence.

2. The Darogah of Jynteeah, in a Report which arrived this morning replying to an order of mine, states that he has been unable to secure a certain Doloi who had given vague hints to some residents of Jynteeah, and whom I had directed to be sent to me for examination as to the extent and causes of the disturbance.

3. I have not yet received the reply of the Officer Commanding to the letter sent to him yesterday, but I understand that, in his opinion, eighty men are disposable for an advance, if the Guards, I mentioned in my yesterday's letter, are relieved as I proposed to do.

4. Application has been made on the subject to the Officer Commanding 44th Native Infantry, and I hope in my next Report to be able to give you full details of what has been determined on. Probably sixty men will be sent to Jynteeah and twenty to guard Gowineghât, on Sunday morning, Moolagool being, for the present, left to take care of itself.

5. I should much wish to go out myself to Jynteeah, and if the state of business here admits of it, and I can make arrangements for carrying on the current work during an absence of four or five days, I may probably do so.

6. I should have wished for your instructions on this point, but I have not time formally to ask sanction for everything it may be necessary to do beforehand.

7. Should I receive any further intelligence in the course of the day I will put it in a Postscript.

From R. ABERCROMBIE, ESQ., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 15, dated the 28th January 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, copy of a letter just received from the Officiating Joint Magistrate in charge of the Magistrate's Office at Sylhet, relative to the threatened descent of the Cossyahs, the purport of which has been already communicated to you in a Telegram.

2. There are no Native Troops available nearer than Furreedpore. However a party of 150 Kamroops could march across in three days, and I would take care that boats were ready for them here, so that no delay should occur in pushing them on, should His Honor determine to send up a Detachment. Another Detachment of the East India Regiment might be sent up to Cherra to relieve the Sylhet Native Infantry, who would be thus available for duty in the interior. The only drawback to this arrangement is the great difficulty that exists of procuring rations for European Troops in the Hills, everything having, as I am informed, to be brought up from the Plains.

3. It appears to me that the Authorities at Gowhatty might easily afford assistance by dispatching a party to Cherra across the Hills, a distance of about sixty or seventy miles, and I am in hopes that the Commissioner of Assam has adopted some measure of that sort.

4. If the reports about the Kookies being inclined to rise on the other Frontier of Sylhet prove true, it will be necessary to dispatch a much larger Native Force.

5. An Extract from the Joint Magistrate's letter has been forwarded to the Magistrate of Tipperah.

From T. Smith, Esq., Officiating Joint Magistrate, in charge of the Sylhet Magistrate's Office, to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 52, dated the 25th January 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report to you that last night I received a letter from the Principal Assistant Commissioner at Cherra, informing me that Colonel Richardson and Major Rowlatt had marched with a Force against Jowai. The insurrection, it was stated, had, as yet, extended to but a few villages, and was not expected to spread unless in case of a reverse being suffered by our Troops.

2. Two hundred Cossyahs were said to have gone towards Jynteeahpore with the intention of making a raid into Sylhet, and are reported to have reached a place, Thoobsung. No one here is aware of the existence of any place with a name at all resembling this except a spot about half way from Sylhet to Jynteeahpore, which can hardly be meant.

3. Having then received information that operations had been commenced from the other side, so that the whole Force of Rebels could not fall upon us, a party of eighty men, under Command of Lieutenant Udny, have this morning started for Jynteeahpore. The Station has, it is true, only some thirty Sepoys (including the Jail Guard) and forty-five East Indians left; but it is almost certain that Sylhet can be, under present circumstances, defended better at Jynteeah than in the Station.

4. I have found it necessary to engage ten extra Burkundauzes, at Rupees 6 per mensem, in order to secure men having some knowledge of fire-arms, with which a few of them have been supplied. They have taken over the Hospital and Commissariat Guards.

5. It was impossible to wait for your sanction to this step, but I trust it will meet with your approval.

6. Although I am far from pledging myself to the truth of the report, I think it right to mention here that those Bengalese who trade with the Cossyahs unanimously attribute the rising to the system of taxing the Hill-people, and the weight of the taxes is felt the more as being a money assessment in a country where trade is, to a great extent, conducted by barter.

7. I have this morning received two Reports, which I regard as of the greatest importance. The first, from the Darogah of Noakhally, states that, on the 22nd January, certain persons returning from the Hills of Tipperah were set upon by some 100 or 125 Lengta Kookies,

and two of them wounded, one by a bullet. The Darogah had started to find out whether the outrage had occurred in his jurisdiction or Independent Tipperah, but appeared to think in the latter.

8. The second Report is from Rajnugger. The Darogah states that, on the 22nd January, a large number of Kookies came into the Sylhet jurisdiction, plundered much property, and set fire to the houses of certain Tipperahs, there resident, besides murdering (as was suspected) one or two people. The Darogah proceeded to investigate the case. Now, should these Reports be confirmed, it will be necessary at once to re-call half of the party sent to Jynteeah, and even then the Station will be hardly strong enough. The Kookies have before now defeated parties of our Troops, and the District thus hemmed in on both sides would be in much danger. I have directed a Roobokaree to be addressed to the Magistrate of Tipperah, informing him of these Reports.

9. Should the Kookies rise, a considerable Force will be required of Natives, not Europeans, who would be absolutely useless in that part of country. The Frontier there, moreover, is not as well defined or as easily guarded as that of Jynteeah, the only protection being the small Guard of some thirty or forty men at Chargoolah.

10. It may be nothing but a countercharge of the Zemindars against the Rajah of Tipperah; but no disturbance on this Frontier can afford to be overlooked, and probably the surrounding tribes are dangerously aware of our weakness since the reduction of the Local Regiment.

11. Should any further intelligence reach me during the day it will be duly communicated to you.

P. S.—I have since seen a letter from Cherra, stating that the Thoobsung already alluded to is actually the place between Jynteeah and Sylhet, where a skirmish took place in 1860. Lieutenant Udny has been duly informed of this, and that the Cossyahs are said to lie in ambush for him there. It is quite certain that the stockade at Jowai had been blockaded for some days. Two of my Policemen reported that they heard a dropping fire in the Hills above Gowineghât on the 21st or 22nd, but this, I fancy, is an exaggeration of chance shots of Shikaries.

If any *Native* Troops are available at Dacca, I think it would be desirable to send them with all possible speed, say two full Companies, up the Kusiarah to Hubeegunge, and ultimately to Bahadoorpore Bazar or

Phenchoogunge. They could then, if necessary, be sent to protect the Southern Thannahs against the Kookies, and, if not required there, would march overland to Sylhet and be held available for an Expedition into the Cossyah Hills thoroughly to punish those troublesome people.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 261A., dated the 3rd February 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 13, dated the 26th ultimo, and its enclosure, and in reply to inform you that application has been made to the Government of India, with a view to the issue of such orders to the Military Authorities on the Frontier as may be deemed necessary for the occasion.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets the necessity of detaching half the Left Wing of the Kamroop Regiment to Sylhet and the Cossyah Hills, as the Dacca Division will thereby become almost denuded of Troops. But the requirements of Sylhet are urgent. He has therefore proposed to the Military Department the detachment of 150 men from Furreedpore to Dacca, where you will provide Boats for their immediate transport to Sylhet.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Military Department,—(No. 264A., dated the 3rd February 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of Officiating Junior Secretary Mr. Bell's communication No. 207A., dated the 27th ultimo, I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to forward, herewith, the further correspondence, noted on the margin, relative to the disturbances in the Cherra and Sylhet Districts, and to request that you will be so good as to move His Excellency the Governor General in Council to issue such orders to the Military Authorities on the Eastern Frontier as may be deemed necessary for the occasion.

Letter from Officiating Commissioner of Dacca, No. 10, dated the 24th ultimo, with enclosure.
Letter from Officiating Commissioner of Dacca, No. 13, dated the 26th ultimo, with enclosure.
Letter from Officiating Commissioner of Dacca, No. 14, dated the 27th ultimo, with enclosure.
Letter from Officiating Commissioner of Dacca, No. 15, dated the 28th ultimo, with enclosure.
Letter to Officiating Commissioner of Dacca, No. 261A., dated the 3rd instant.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets the necessity of detaching half the Left Wing of the Kamroop Regiment to Sylhet and the Cossyah Hills, as the Dacca Division will thereby become almost denuded of Troops. But, as the requirements of Sylhet are urgent, he proposes the detachment of 150 men from Furreedpore to Dacca, where they would be provided with Boats for immediate transport to Sylhet.

3. With reference to the letter from the Officiating Commissioner of Dacca of the 28th ultimo, and its enclosure, from the Officiating Joint Magistrate in charge of the Sylhet Magistracy, the Lieutenant-Governor observes that there seems too much probability of the truth of the conjecture expressed in the penultimate paragraph of the latter communication.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL H. W. NORMAN, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 54, dated the 1st February 1862.)

SIR,

WITH reference to your letters Nos. 180A. and 207A. of the 25th and 27th ultimo, I am directed to transmit copies of the correspondence noted in the margin, and to acquaint you, for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, that Brigadier-General Showers has been directed to despatch a Wing of the 28th Native Infantry Regiment to Dacca and Sylhet at once, and that the remainder of the Corps will follow.

Letter from Brigadier-General Showers, to Adjutant-General of the Army, No. 37, dated 29th January 1862, with enclosures.

The Lieutenant-Governor will observe that meanwhile the Troops near the spot appear to have been judiciously placed.

I am desired to add that, with reference to the letter from Officiating Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel Atkinson, to your address, No. 780A. of the 28th December 1860, it is desirable that in any application which the Government of Bengal may have to make for Military aid the General of the Division should be addressed directly by that Government, the Governor General in Council being at the same time informed of the application.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, Commanding the Presidency Division, to the Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 37, dated the 29th January 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, correspondence, noted in the margin, relative to disturbances that have taken place in the Cossyah Hills near Sylhet.

1. Report from Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, Commanding 44th Native Infantry at Cherra Poonjee.
2. Report from Lieutenant Lance, Commanding East India Regiment at Dacca.
3. Letter from the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division, to Officer Commanding at Cherra Poonjee.

This morning the Report from Lieutenant Lance, Commanding the East India Regiment, arrived, reporting the reinforcements he had sent at the requisition of the Commissioner of the District.

2. I have already stated my opinion in the various Reports that I made on Assam of the Military character of the Hill Tribes in this Province, and it is probable that an advanced position resolutely held will prevent them from descending into the Plains.

3. If the rebels do not disperse, I consider that the strength of the Regiment under Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson will enable him to concentrate a sufficient force to attack them and drive them back into the Hills.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. Richardson, Commanding 44th Regiment, Assam Light Infantry, to the Deputy Assistant-General, Presidency Division,—(No 7, dated Cherra Poonjee, the 21st January 1862)

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding the Division, that late last night I received a letter from the Native Officer Commanding our Stockade at Jowai, that on the 17th his Guard was fired on by the Cossyahs of the Jynteeah District, and that on the 18th they had assembled on the neighbouring Hills to the number of 600 men, armed in their way with muskets, that they had prevented the country people from holding their usual weekly market, and that the Garrison were short of food.

I this morning sent off thirty cooly loads of provisions escorted by a Jemadar and twenty-four muskets, with orders to halt in case the enemy

appeared in strength, and a similar party will leave to-morrow with more supplies, which latter party I intend to accompany together with Mr. Shadwell, Political Officer in charge of these Hills.

This Native Officer's letter was the first intimation we received of this outbreak, and I have lost no time in directing the Officer Commanding Detachment of this Regiment at Sylhet to hold all his men in readiness to proceed to Jynteeahpore at the call of the Magistrate to prevent the Hill Tribes descending into the Plains in that direction. This will leave Sylhet under the protection of a Company of the East Indian Regiment. Lieutenant Udny, Commanding Detachment 44th Native Infantry at Sylhet, will have for the above duty 118 Sepoys; I shall have 100 at Jowai; 135 will remain at Cherra Poonjee, and 242 at Cachar, while about 100 are still on our Rolls in excess of our new Establishment owing to our having twenty sick and eighty on guards, which it was perhaps intended should be taken by Police, but as yet no Police have been employed for that purpose. I have not yet been able to reduce the Regiment to its proper strength, which, on a review of all the above circumstances, and taking into consideration that the Superintendent of Cachar anticipates difficulties there on account of the withdrawal of the Political Agent from Munipoor, I trust the Brigadier-General will consider that I have hitherto been unable to accomplish with any degree of prudence.

From LIEUTENANT M. H. J. LANCE, Commanding East Indian Regiment, to CAPTAIN J. HUDSON, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 574, dated Dacca, the 26th January 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of Brigadier-General Commanding the Division, that, at the request of the Commissioner of the District, with concurrence of Government, I yesterday despatched a reinforcement of the East Indian Regiment to Sylhet, strength as per margin, in consequence of apprehended disturbances near that Station.

1 Officer.
2 Serjeants.
31 Rank and File.

It is further reported that an attack on the Hill Station of Cherra Poonjee by the savage Tribes was anticipated.

The whole District of Jynteeah is in an uneasy state, though hitherto nothing has actually occurred.

From Captain J. Hudson, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division, to the Officer Commanding at Cherra Poonjee,—(No. 33, dated the 28th January 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed by the Brigadier-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 7, dated 21st instant, reporting the collection of a party of about 600 men on the Cossyah Hills who prevented the usual weekly market from being held.

You report also that, in consequence of a portion of Guards taken by the Regiment under your Command not having been relieved, you had not complied with the orders of Government to reduce these Regiments to the strength laid down.

In reply the Brigadier-General desires me to observe that a Force of 100 Bayonets at Jowai should be ample to keep in check the 600 men that are reported to have collected together; so long as that Force maintains a threatening position at Jowai, the Brigadier-General does not anticipate that the Hill Tribes will attempt to descend to the Plains; but to be prepared for contingencies you might advance a portion of the Force from Cachar in support of the Detachment at Jowai, and, if necessary, a second Detachment from Cherra Poonjee to Jyntoeah.

In the meantime the Civil Officer in the District, supported by the Detachment at Jowai, may probably be able to persuade the hillmen to disperse, in which case, after such time as, in communication with the Civil Officer, you may consider necessary, the Detachment may be withdrawn.

If, however, the men refuse to disperse, you must continue to maintain your advanced positions and act as circumstances require with the concurrence of the Civil Officer with the Force.

From Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Norman, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 81, dated the 3rd February 1862.)

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 54 of the 1st instant, reporting that a Wing, 28th Regiment Native Infantry, had been ordered to Sylhet and Dacca, I am directed to inform you, for communication to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, that the other Wing

of the same Regiment, now at Berhampore, has been ordered to follow in the same direction without awaiting its relief by a portion of the 21st Native Infantry, now on this side of Benares.

2. A Company of the Wing at Berhampore will remain there for the duties of the Station, but the number of effective men in the two Wings proceeding to Sylhet will, it is believed, be not less than five hundred.

Extract of a letter from LIEUTENANT-COLONEL H. W. NORMAN, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 269, dated the 10th February 1862.)

WITH reference to the opinion expressed (in your Despatch, dated the 23rd ultimo,) that five Regiments, 600 strong, are absolutely necessary for the proper duties of Assam, Sylhet, Cachar, and the Hills between the Assam and Sylhet Valleys, I am to state that one Regiment is already proceeding towards Sylhet, as intimated in my letter No. 81 of the 3rd instant, and that a second Regiment will shortly follow.

Memorandum from MAJOR H. K. BURNE, Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Millitary Department,—(No. 198, dated the 7th February 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Sylhet Light Infantry, to the Deputy Adjutant-General of the Presidency Division,—(No. 9, dated Jowai Stockade, the 26th January 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my No. 7 of the 2nd instant, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding the Division, that I arrived here yesterday evening with my Detachment of one Jemadar and forty-four muskets, having halted one day on the road for my second Detachment as mentioned in my former letter, I having, by a circuitous route, avoided the expected opposition

which, with our seventy Cooley loads of provisions, might have proved disastrous.

I found the Stockade with its Garrison of sixty men in good order under its very excellent Commandant, a Jemadar of the Regiment, but straitened for food and worn out with constant watchfulness to frustrate the various attempts of the Rebels to fire the place.

In conjunction with Major Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner, I this morning moved out at 9½ A. M. with sixty-five muskets and a Jemadar to attack the stockaded village of Jallong which we reached in two hours, and immediately commenced the ascent of the Hills on which it is situated, about 1,000 feet high; the first stockade was encountered half way up, and here we had the only serious resistance offered, consisting of a brisk fire of musketry which disabled some of our men, but the remainder keeping up a good fire, we were enabled to cut down the gate and enter the place; when the opposition generally ceased, and we succeeded in driving out the Rebels and firing the village, we got safely back to this about 4½ P. M.

Our loss four Sepoys rather badly wounded by musketry, one cooley more sightly wounded. One of Major Rowlatt's Police Sepoys (of which six were out) was badly wounded with an arrow, as also more slightly were two or three Sepoys and Coolies, and many of the party were bruised by stones rolled down the Hill.

The loss of the enemy cannot be ascertained; for as soon as the Gate was forced we hurried into the second line of Stockade and did not return the same way. Only one dead body lay in my path, the Sepoys only saw three, but the Jungle was dense on both sides of the path and the fallen could not be seen, but we could see that wounded or dead men had been carried over by the rear of the Stockade, a new and strongly built one.

I have much pleasure in reporting that the conduct of all the men engaged was most excellent.

There are other villages, I believe, to be visited, but Jallong being the strongest and bearing the worst character was the first attacked, and I trust our success here will have the effect of deterring the others from resistance.

I will not fail to keep you acquainted with our future proceedings.

Memorandum from Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Norman, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department,—(No. 421, dated the 13th February 1862.)

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, Commanding Presidency Division, to the Officiating Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 283, dated the 10th February 1862.

Letter No. 10, dated 29th January, from Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, reporting operations against the stockaded village of "Latoobur," forwarded for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief for his favorable consideration.

From the Report now forwarded by Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson we may conclude that the Rebels will not return to their allegiance without coercion.

That Report also developes the mode of warfare the Rebels will pursue.

They will never oppose our Troops except from a distance and under the shelter of walls and thick jungle, but they will hover about our Columns and cut off our stragglers and intercept our communications

To reduce the country to order it will be necessary to visit with our Troops the principal villages and markets throughout these Hills.

In doing this our Column will have to move to a distance from the Head-Quarter's Station of the District, and as it will be essential to preserve the communication between the Column and the Station, small Detachments must be posted along the whole line of road of communication to afford protection to the Dâk runners.

Such posts would serve further to protect the rear of the Columns and the baggage and supplies belonging to them.

They should not be more than fifteen miles from one another, and of sufficient strength to be able to send out Detachments to attack the Rebels, whenever they are collected together, within three or four hours march of the post.

The Regiment which is now at Sylhet, and the 28th Native Infantry which is proceeding to reinforce it, will not be sufficient to supply the strength of the Column of these various Detachments, and at the same

time to furnish the Force that it will be advisable to keep at Cherra Poonjee, Sylhet, and Cachar. An additional Wing will be required for the purpose.

Such a system of operations will ensure the effectual reduction of the people without much bloodshed, but I do not think it will prevent them breaking out again on any future occasion.. This will only be effected by such severity as will make the people dread another visit from our Military Columns.

If this system be pursued a smaller Force will be required to settle the present rising.

With respect to the proceedings of the Rebels between Sylhet and Independent Tipperah, I have heard nothing further since the murder of the men against whom the Tipperah Rajah had complained some short time ago; but, as disturbances have taken place, it is necessary that a sufficient Force should be kept at Sylhet and Cachar to act against an inroad of the Tribes from the south. The Force at Sylhet I consider too small; it should be reinforced, so as to have 100 men to march out on any emergency.

The Detachment at Cachar need not be increased as it is large enough to repel any attack that could be made in that quarter, but it should not be reduced.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. Richardson, Commanding 44th Regiment Native Infantry, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—No. 10, dated Jowai Stockade, the 29th January 1862.

Sir,

In continuation of my No. 9 of the 26th January, I have the honor to report that, on the 27th January 1862, in company with Major Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner, taking with us a party of one Jemadar and sixty-five muskets, we proceeded beyond Jalong to another stockaded village named "Latoobur," which we reached in two and a half hours. We found this stockaded in front and defended in the rear and sides by a deep and jungly ravine; our advance was slightly impeded by pit-falls filled with spikes, into one of which, I am sorry to say, our guide fell and was very dangerously wounded. After reconnoitering the place, I established the leading Section in a good position to cover our advance, and then with two Sections in skirmishing order, we soon

reached the high bank on which the Stockade was built up; this was climbed under showers of stones badly aimed, as the enemy were afraid to shew themselves on account of the fire of No. 1 Section on their left, and, after a little work, we got into the Stockade without loss.

As usual the enemy escaped without punishment. I only found one killed inside the stockade, but the jungle being close our flanking fire must have caused (loss*), which could not be discovered. Our own loss was, the guide severely wounded and twenty-five Sepoys, more or less badly cut about the feet and legs with bamboo spikes hid in the grass, called "Panjeas."

* A word is omitted in original.

There were two villages, one large and one small, the smaller, being the only one stockaded, was the only one burnt, it being Major Rowlatt's policy to discourage, in this manner, the fortifying of the villages. The active opposition on this occasion consisted of about a dozen musket shots fired at us too soon to do us any damage, and then stones were thrown over on our advance, but, as above stated, without effect; nor for the same reason did the enemy dare to expose themselves by using bows and arrows. We returned to the Stockade at 5 P. M.

28th *January* 1862.—Detached a Jemadar and fifteen men towards Cherra, eight miles; they found an ambuscade lying in wait for the dâk, but the Rebels escaped before our men got within shot; the dâk was brought safely in. With Major Rowlatt I proceeded at 10 A. M. with forty-five muskets to hunt up the Rebels in the surrounding villages, but we were unsuccessful, only finding one family in the jungle, who were brought in. Got back at 5 P. M.

Heard this afternoon that one or two villages at the distance of fifteen miles have been stockaded; this being too far for one day's expedition, I am constrained to wait for reinforcements from Cherra Poonjee, having, before I left, ordered a Company up there from Cachar.

The Brigadier-General will perceive that out of our small Force of 100 men we have thirty incapable of marching, one being ill with fever, and that it would hardly be safe to leave this stockade for any time with such a small Guard as I could place here, while proceeding on an expedition which would occupy two or three days, while from the paucity of men at Cherra I fear I must await reinforcements from Cachar, which is itself not in a safe position. I formerly wrote for Mountain Train guns, and an answer was returned saying an arrangement would be made, but none have been supplied; they would be most useful. Altogether the Troops here have

been too much reduced, and I consider the Regiment, as it stood last year, the cheapest and best Force which could be raised for this Frontier. We then, for a less extensive disturbance, had 500 or 600 men at our immediate disposal, whereby opposition was at once put down. At present to overawe (in the Jynteeah Hills alone) 15,000 men capable of bearing arms, and every one against us, I can with difficulty, if at all, collect 200 men.

I will not fail to keep the Brigadier-General acquainted with our proceedings.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 19th February 1862.)

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

The steady and successful progress of Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson is very satisfactory. The losses our Troops have suffered is to be regretted; but the warfare being carried on in a country covered with dense jungle, which enables the Rebels to attack our men without being themselves seen, some loss must be expected.

The arrangements made by Colonel Richardson to discover the cattle and property of the Rebels, and to protect the villages friendly and loyal to the British Government, appear judicious.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. Richardson, Commanding 44th Native Infantry, to the Officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 12, dated Mungba, a few miles north of Jowai, the 9th February 1862.)

Sir,

In continuation of my No. 10 of 13th January, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding the Presidency Division, that on the 29th, 30th, and 31st January we halted at Jowai.

On the 1st February I accompanied Major Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner, with forty muskets to complete the destruction of the village of Jallong, which was carried out without opposition, though the Stockade itself was too strong to be destroyed; except here and there one or two armed men were seen but escaped.

2nd February.—Halted at Jowai.

3rd February.—Lieutenant Udny with one Jemadar, one Subadar, and forty-two muskets arrived to-day from Sylhet *viâ* Jynteeahpore and Amwai; they met with no opposition, but saw some of the enemy.

4th February.—Halted at Jowai; in the evening a party of the Regiment, consisting of one Subadar, one Jemadar, three Havildars, five Naicks, and fifty-four Sepoys, arrived.

5th February.—Left Jowai at 10½ A. M. with 150 muskets, leaving fifty there under a Subadar, reached at 2 P. M. the hill opposite the stockaded village of Shampong; a river deep running between us; our bank (the western) commanded some of the stockades opposite, and immediately extending two sections, leaving two as a rear Guard with our baggage, I took two as a storming party and advancing at a run we crossed the river and climbed the opposite hill as fast as its steepness would let us, taking the three stockades which commanded the river and the two paths up with slight loss. The lower stockade, after the storming party had passed it, was entered by three Sepoys who were opposed by a party of the enemy whom they bayonetted, receiving some pretty severe sword-cuts in return, three others were slightly wounded in the ascent; my party continued on, and after silencing opposition burnt the village. We learn there were but 100 men opposed to us but they had several muskets; and a large reinforcement arrived at the moment after we had got to the village, who however retreated seeing they could do nothing, and took the road to Munsow. The enemy were rather active here in opposing us with muskets, arrows, and stones, but the steepness of the hill was our chief obstacle; we counted eleven dead bodies of the enemy, among them one Chief "Gisree Dolley;" returned to west bank of river before sunset, and put up in a small deserted village, where we passed the night quietly.

6th February.—Left Camp at 10½, and by a circuitous road to avoid swamps reached at 3 P. M. a deserted village about two miles short of the stockaded village of Munsow; here we left rear Guards and baggage and advanced with 100 muskets; we soon came to an earthen rampart across the road which the enemy ran from into the jungle which was thick and close up to both sides of the ridge along which the road ran; while climbing over this rampart we were fired on and one Sepoy

was dangerously wounded by a musket-shot in the side; one mile further on we came to two strong stockades across the road and extending far down into the dense jungle on both sides; we extended some men, and advancing rapidly got under the bank on which the stockade was built without loss; though several muskets and many arrows were fired at us, we cut through the stockade; I went on to the village which we partially burnt, but it being now late were obliged to return to camp, which we reached after sun-set.

7ht February.—Proceed at 10½ to finish the destruction of th e village of Munsow; first levelling with our coolies the earthen rampart we then reached the stockade which had been re-placed in the night and which was now defended in a vigorous manner by musketry and arrows, where, I regret to say, we had one Naick killed, one Jemadar severely, and one Sepoy dangerously, and five slightly wounded by musketry; we soon, however, got over the stockade and our Sepoys and coolies setting to work pulled down the portion extending across the road and burnt the materials; we then levelled the mud embankment and proceeding on, burnt as much of the village as we could find, being, however, fired on every now and then harmlessly by the enemy ensconsed in the thick jungle, who were invisible to us, and we only know of two of them being killed.

The village of Munsow is very large, built on many separate hills all divided one from another by dense tracts of jungle, and it is altogether a very strong position.

8th February.—Halt and send off the wounded to Jowai, about three hours' distance, directing the Garrison there to send us out a like number of sound men with ammunition and supplies.

9th February.—Write to Cherra for reinforcements and supplies in hopes, by sending out detached parties, of being able to discover the cattle and property of the Rebels which had all been removed from the village; marched at 10½ A. M., about three and half miles to a small cultivating village near Mungba, west from Munsow, for the purpose of protecting the villages which appear friendly to us, and of reconnoitering the country round Munsow, and waiting for reinforcements from Cherra—our party from Jowai arrived this evening.

I had the honor to receive this evening your communication No. 33 of the 28th ultimo, and it shall have my best attention.

I have requested the Officer Commanding at Sylhet to send up a Company of the East Indian Regiment to Cherra to enable Lieutenant Buist to join me with as many men as he can collect.

I fear this outbreak will leave Cachar very destitute of men, but that post shall be reinforced at the very earliest opportunity.

Major Rowlatt has requested that a Company of the 43rd Native Infantry from Gowhatty may be sent in this direction.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 11th February 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of Government.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Native Infantry, to the Assistant Adjutant General, Presidency Division,—(No. 13, dated Mungba, the 11th February 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my letter of the 9th instant, I have the honor to report that yesterday, with a small party, I reconnoitred the road leading to Munsow as far as the village of Takanyang, two and a half hours from this, and within sight of Munsow. The approaches are perhaps a little better from this side than from the other, and there would be no difficulty, I imagine, in again entering that village, but the tactics of the enemy are such as hitherto to baffle our attempts to punish them, and we have no object in again entering or occupying this village, which is far in the jungle, and where we could not keep open our communication without a considerable Force. They have removed all their property, and we have only burnt their empty houses. We can get but little information from the surrounding villagers, who stand too much in awe of the numerous bodies of the enemy scattered about in the jungles, and who, when attacked closely, at once leave their defences, and are lost among the rocks and jungle where we cannot follow them, for we don't even see them.

We are now awaiting reinforcements, when, I trust, the accounts I shall have to send the Brigadier-General will be of a better character. We have as yet heard of no other stockaded villages.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 1st March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Regiment Native Infantry, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 14, dated Mungba, the 15th February 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my No. 4 of 11th February, I have now the honor to report that on the 11th we halted in our Camp near this; 12th halted, and received from Cherra a reinforcement of one Havildar, one Naick, and sixteen Sepoys, with supplies; heard to-day that the Rebels had concealed their property and families at a place called Leshpar, near Munsow.

13*th February*.—Left Camp at 10½ A. M. with two Jemadars, six Havildars, eight Naicks, one Bugler, and eighty-three Sepoys, leaving Lieutenant Udny in charge with one Jemadar, two Havildars, six Naicks, one Bugler, and fifty-three Sepoys; reached a small cultivating village not far from Munsow at 2½ P. M; halted and collected as much of the enemy's rice as we could find, but it was not more than 200 maunds, which, after taking what we required, was destroyed. The Rebels assembled round our Camp at night, and for two or three hours fired Musketry on us, but without inflicting any loss; we could do nothing against them in the dense jungle.

14*th*.—In the morning reconnoitred towards Munsow, but there is no road, and the jungle and rocky ravines too difficult to pass without some adequate object; returned at 9 to Camp, breakfasted and returned in four hours to this place. The Rebels followed us two miles in some numbers, but offered no molestation, and kept out of shot; our Native Guard went and spoke them, but they did not seem inclined to come in.

I have been anxious to get reinforced from Cherra for the purpose of surrounding Munsow as far as can be done, and thus inflicting some punishment on the Rebels collected there; but the state of the country about Cherra will, I fear, prevent assistance from thence till the arrival of the men from Calcutta. We propose halting here to-day at least to rest the men.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 1st March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Native Infantry, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 16, dated Camp Mungba, the 18th February 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my letter No. 14 of 15th February, I have now the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding Presidency Division, that the Detachments under my command halted here on the 15th, 16th, and 17th.

On the 17th Lieutenant Buist, Adjutant of the Corps, joined me at twelve at night with one Subadar, one Jemadar, seven Havildars, six Naicks, two Buglers, and eighty-four Sepoys. This day we are collecting coolies, and purpose as soon as they arrive to move on Munsow, which we shall enter from three different points in hopes of inflicting some punishment on the Rebels collected there, and we intend to hold that place till we have had some communication with their leaders, but in this, of course, we must be guided by circumstances.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 20th February 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Native Infantry, to the Officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 18, dated Camp Mungba, the 20th February 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my No. 16 of the 18th February, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding, that the plan therein mentioned was yesterday carried out.

Three parties left this at different times during the night of the 18th and 19th, and each reached the village of Munsow before sun-rise.

Lieutenant Buist with fifty men and a small howitzer was instructed to attack the large stockade as soon as he heard my fire in the rear, but he unfortunately commenced his attack a little too soon, whereby he lost a Bugler, shot dead, and a Sepoy very badly wounded. My party, however, came up shortly after, and the enemy then fled at once into the jungle, having, as usual, escaped punishment as far as we know. We destroyed the stockade, patrolled the place, and burnt the few remaining houses in the village and then returned to our camp here by 4 P. M. of the 19th.

The reason why the enemy escaped punishment was that the jungle at the stockade is dense and runs down a ravine for two or three miles, while the ground is precipitous; we fired a few rounds of grape into the jungle which silenced their fire, but besides the above we had two or three men wounded with arrows, one Havildar rather badly.

Having done all we can here (for occupying the ground where Munsow stood we found to be out of the question), we purpose shifting our ground and seeking out stockades which we hear have been erected somewhere between Jowai and Jynteeahpore.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER J. MACDONALD, Commanding at the Presidency,—(dated the 4th March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Native Infantry, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No 20, dated Jowai Stockade, the 23rd February 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my No. 18 of the 20th February, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding the Presidency Division, that on the 20th February I halted at Mungba and sent Lieutenant Buist with 100 men to Jowai, with orders to detach eighty men to Amwai, one march on the road to Sylhet *viâ* Jyntecahpore, for the purpose of protecting the villages thereabouts from the Rebels.

21st February.—Heard of the arrival at Nurteng of Lieutenants Bartleman and Boyd, 43rd Native Infantry, with eighty-five men from

Gowhatty; went there with Major Rowlatt in one and a half hours and instructed Lieutenant Bartleman to protect the villages there from the enemy and to furnish the Police Darogah with a party, when required, to seize any of the Rebels he might be able to hear of. We then returned to camp.

22nd February.—Marched to Jowai two and a half hours from Mungba; found the Stockade all right, though the Rebels had made one or two attempts to burn it, in which, I am informed, they lost one or two men.

23rd February.—Halt at Jowai on account of the weather, but if it clears to-morrow I intend to march in the direction of Jynteeahpore; 100 muskets have already gone that way and are located at Amwai; we hear that the Rebels are collected in that vicinity, but cannot learn that they have stockaded themselves.

I am sorry to say that the Calcutta Dâks of the 13th and 14th February have been taken by the Cossyahs between Cherra and this.—Should any communication of yours have been forwarded on those dates I beg you will transmit me copies.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER J. MACDONALD, Commanding at the Presidency,—(dated the 6th March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Regiment Native Infantry, to CAPTAIN GILBERT, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 22, dated Jowai, the 25th February 1862.)

SIR,

I REGRET I should have nothing further to report for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding. The coolies from this village have all left and gone to other villages and we find it difficult to move. We expect coolies from another part of the District to-day, and on their arrival shall at once march to Amwai, ten miles south from this towards the Plains, for the purpose of seeking out the Rebels, who, we hear, have stockaded two villages in that neighbourhood.

A Jemadar and forty-three muskets established at Jynteeahpore in the Plains south of this has been active in seizing the Rebels' supplies, but the Rebels themselves have as usual escaped into the jungle, though so closely pressed that they have, in many instances, thrown away their arms. This party, on being relieved by Troops from Calcutta, will be able to bring us up supplies from Sylhet, as we are running short, and it is almost impossible to induce coolies to come to us from Cherra.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your Memorandum No. 337 of 17th February 1862, and will be careful to note in my letters the direction of our marches.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER J. MACDONALD, Commanding at the Presidency,—(dated the 7th March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From BREVET-CAPTAIN R. G. CHAMBERS, Commanding Detachment, 43rd Native Infantry, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division, Fort William,—(No. 2, dated Nowgong, the 25th February 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding the Presidency Division, my departure this day with a party 43rd Regiment Light Infantry, strength as per margin, into the District to aid the Civil power against certain Jynteeah Rebels reported to have committed depredations.

1 Havildar.
1 Naick.
18 Sepoys.

The Detachment now proceeding with me marched over from Tezpore to reinforce the Detachment here in case there should be any need of their services, owing to the Jynteeah Rebels being driven over from the Sylhet side to this District.

My march to-day will be to Phoolagooree where there is already a Detachment of the Regiment, from which I shall take a reinforcement, making up my strength to forty muskets.

I have the honor to append a copy of a letter from the Assistant Commissioner in charge, Zillah Nowgong, calling for my services.

From LIEUTENANT W. PHAIRE, Assistant Commissioner in charge of Zillah Nowgong, to CAPTAIN R. G. CHAMBERS, Commanding in Nowgong District,—(No. 18, dated 24th February 1862.)

SIR,

IN reply to your letter of this date, I have the honor to inform you that it has been officially reported to me that on the 22nd instant some Nagas or Jynteeah people, numbering from 100 to 200, came down from the hills, and making a raid on the Singmarree District plundered some of the people.

I have received information (but it is only hearsay) that a village was burnt and two people killed, besides which a Kyah Merchant was carried off into the hills.

I have sent out for trustworthy information, upon receipt of which I will at once forward you any information which may reach me.

Memorandum from LIEUTENANT-COLONEL M. A. BIDDULPH, Royal Artillery, Commanding at the Presidency,—(dated the 12th March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Regiment Native Infantry, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General,—(No. 24, dated Camp Amwai Poonjee, the 28th February 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my No. 22 of 25th February, I have the honor to report that on the 25th February we marched to this place, Amwai, in four and a half hours; it is about ten miles south of Jowai on the Jynteeahpore road. On the 26th February I sent a Jemadar and sixty men to Jynteeahpore, twenty miles off in the plains, to bring up supplies, and myself, with Major Rowlatt and fifty men, marched, 11 A. M., towards the south-west; reached Pompadong, a deserted village, in two hours; went on for another half hour, when we arrived at a deep valley, but at a long distance from the village said by the guide to be stockaded, but quite unapproachable in this direction; returned to camp. A number of straw huts have been built for us by the villagers; at night fall heavy rain set in, which has continued with little intermission till this moment, noon of the 28th, rendering any movements for the present impossible.

It had been my intention to have ridden down to Sylhet *viâ* Jynteeahpore to have an interview with Colonel Dunsford, who must be at, or have been at that place by this time; but the jheels at the foot of the Hills are very full, and quick communication with that place is impossible.

If any effectual movement is to be made on the stockade mentioned above, it should be in force, as the village stockaded overlooks the Plains and is in dense jungle. With no other village near and with our small party it is to be feared they will only play the same game they have hitherto done, which is, to fire on the attacking party till we get into the stockade, and then disperse in the jungle to stockade some other village, and it was on this point I wished to see Colonel Dunsford, as, unless surrounded, the Rebels must always escape, and this tends much to encourage them and to cause the rebellion to spread, while, where they are at present at the edge of Hill country and Guards disposed around them, as at Jowai 100 men, at Candar 200 men, at Jynteeahpore 45, and at Nurteng 85 of the 43rd Native Infantry, they may be considered to be in a measure hemmed in and thereby restrained from doing much mischief for the present.

Should the weather clear up, I still hope to see Colonel Dunsford at Sylhet.

Memorandum from LIEUTENANT-COLONEL M. A. BIDDULPH, Commanding at the Presidency,—(dated the 19th March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Regiment Native Infantry, to the Officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General of the Presidency Division,—(No. 27, dated Camp Amwai, the 8th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report the arrival, yesterday evening, of Captain Robinson with 150 muskets of the 28th Native Infantry at Nungtalong to the south-west, twelve miles from this. I rode out there with Major Rowlatt to meet this Detachment, and have arranged with Captain Robinson that he shall attack the south side, while I

take the north side of the stockaded village of Ooksay. To carry out this I move my camp to-morrow to the village of Padoo, eight miles from this and three or four from Ooksay, and the attack will take place at noon the next day. By this arrangement we hope to get the Rebels between two fires, and to inflict on them such a loss as may frighten the others.

I fear the Brigadier-General may think that unnecessary delay has taken place in this, but in the first place the weather has been very bad, and in the second, we have expected the 28th Native Infantry daily for some time, and both Major Rowlatt and myself think a successful attack will have the best effect on the inhabitants of these Hills, while our previous operations, though successful in a measure, have not had the desired effect of inflicting much loss on the Rebels, and this enables them to retain their influence in the country, many of the villagers quite believing that the Rebels have destroyed the Regiment, Officers and men, and that no more Troops are forthcoming. I trust in a few days to have more cheering news to send you.

Memorandum from the Brigadier Commanding at the Presidency,—(dated the 22nd March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding 44th Regiment Native Infantry, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 30, dated Camp Padoo, the 14th March 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my No. 28 of 11th March, I have the honor to report that on the 12th March I proceeded with Major Rowlatt and Lieutenant Buist and forty muskets to reconnoitre the road to the stockaded village of Nongbarai. South of this, and six miles off overlooking the plains, most of the road lay through heavy jungle, and the enemy had taken great pains by felling trees and digging pangee pits to delay our progress. We found also two stockades on the road, but they were not defended, except by a few bowmen, who did us no harm. Leaving Lieutenant Buist and twenty men to destroy these stockades, I pushed on to the village intending to look for a spot to attack at some future day; but when I got to the rear of

the place, I found one of the doors not built up; in consequence of this the Rebels would not stand, and my party entered and burnt the village (an extensive one) and destroyed as much of the stockade as our limited time would allow.

This consisted of a wall of stones about five feet high and five thick, very well built and stockaded on the top,—this extended all round the sides of the village.

There is a small part of this village down a steep ravine a mile off, which appeared to be also stockaded, but our time would not allow us to visit this, and it seemed unimportant. After the main village was burnt we fired on the enemy as they disappeared in the jungle, but I fear not much injury was inflicted on them; one was reported killed. They appeared to number 100 or 200. We got back to camp by sun-set without accident. 13th March—having yesterday sent to request Captain Robinson to co-operate with me, I this day marched out with 120 muskets to attack the stockaded village of Koodeng; Captain Robinson to take at the same time the stockaded village of Soka. These villages are on opposite sides of the Monksa river, and overlook the Plains. They are about south of this, Koodeng at two hours distance, but the road was blocked up with felled trees, and we were about three hours going. When we reached Koodeng we found the gate of the stockade open and a few of the inhabitants with a white flag ready to surrender. We spared the village, made them destroy the stockades, and sent out parties to search for armed Rebels and arms. We got together few villagers, whom we made over to the Civil Authority in camp and also collected (6) six muskets, and some swords, bows and arrows, and shields. Got back to camp by sun-set.

You will receive Captain Robinson's account of his proceedings, I presume, through another channel; he was at Soka, and that is all I know.

I propose leaving this to-day for Amwai and Jowai, and at the requisition of Major Rowlatt shall leave a Native Officer and sixty muskets to keep this post and patrol the country round.

14th.—Having heard of Colonel Dunsford's arrival at Jynteeahpore, I marched down in eight hours to see him in company with Major Rowlatt.

(Sd.) H. F. Dunsford, *Colonel,*
Commanding Sylhet Force.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, Commanding Presidency Division.

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From Colonel H. F. Dunsford, Commanding Sylhet Force, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division, with Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 41, dated Camp Jynteahpore, the 15th March 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding the Division, that I arrived here on the 13th and immediately dispatched messengers with a request to Major Rowlatt, the Deputy Commissioner, and Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, Commanding the 44th Regiment, to meet me that we might concert as to our plans of action for quelling the disturbance now prevailing among the Cossyahs. These Officers came in from Padoo last evening, and report most of the villages about Amwai Poonjee and between it and Jowai to be stockaded. I propose therefore marching early to-morrow to Amwai Poonjee and thence to Jowai, from which I propose making a tour to the East, destroying all stockades, and leaving small parties, where found necessary, to prevent the Cossyahs from returning to them.

Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson has already reported his engagement with the Rebels on the 11th at Amwai Poonjee, and his complete success, though not attended with much loss to the enemy, will, it is presumed, check the further spread of the rebellion.

Captain Robinson I have posted at Nungtalong and have directed him to meet me here, where I propose making up his party to about 150 men. With these he will hold Padoo with thirty, and Nungtalong with thirty, leaving ninety available for visiting the numerous stockaded villages in his neighbourhood, a list of which will be afforded him by the Deputy Commissioner. The greatest difficulty seems to be the supplying the Troops with food; they are entirely dependent on this place and Cherra Poonjee. I have sent a requisition to the Collector of Sylhet for a daily supply, but I much fear he will not be able to furnish the required quantity of atta, without which we must expect great sickness. I would therefore respectfully suggest that an immediate supply be drawn from

Dacca, and, if possible, a Commissariat Officer to superintend its distribution and keep up the supply. I am unable myself to speak as to the nature of the country we are about to enter, but, in the absence of any map, Major Rowlatt has furnished me with the accompanying sketch which may afford the Brigadier-General an insight into the relative positions of the villages.

I beg also to send a list of the places where Detachments will be left, and with the remainder of the Force at my disposal I will scour the country from Jowai to the East and return by to Jowai. This will probably occupy from a week to ten days, and by that time the Brigadier-General will possibly be at Sylhet or Cherra Poonjee, when I would do myself the honor of waiting on him, if required.

I am unable to send you a correct present state of the Force now in the Sylhet District, not having as yet received Returns from the outposts, but these shall be preparep and sent as soon as practicable. I am informed that the 33rd Regiment Native Infantry is also on its way up to Sylhet, but I have received no official intimation of this.

Posts at which it is intended to leave small Detachments whilst a Column marches around the disturbed Districts.

Post.	Approximate Strength.	REMARKS.
Jynteeahpore	30	
Nungtalong	120	
Padoo	30	
Amwai	30	
Jowai	50	
Nurteng	76	Now held by 43rd Native Infantry, but to be relieved by forty-fourth or twenty-eighth Punjaub Infantry.
Cherra Poonjee	150	
Nuncklow	15	At the request of the Commissioner of Assam.
Myrung	15	
Total ...	516	

The Guards have been directed to proceed from Cherra Poonjee at once and are not included in the 150 men returned as at Cherra Poonjee.

There are in addition to these Guards one of twenty-five men at Moolagool to the East, and fifteen at Gorah Ghât to the West.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED to the Adjutant-General of the Army for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. The places marked with red crosses are those which Colonel Dunsford proposed to occupy; those marked with blue are represented as being the most violent against the Government and have drawn away the rest into hostility to the State. The pencil lines connecting these places I shall direct to be visited by the Columns. I am about to run down to Moolagool to enquire on the spot regarding the state of the reported stockade at Mooralee Poonjee and the roads beyond, when I shall be able to decide on the movements of the Column.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, Commanding Presidency Division.

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, Commanding Presidency Division, to the Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 24A., dated the 21st March 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that I reached Phenchogunge, on the Koosiara, on the 16th instant, on board the steamer *Tay*, and the following morning I proceeded into Sylhet. The Head-Quarters of the 33rd Native Infantry I was obliged to leave on board the Steamer until elephants could be sent to transport their baggage, as all that were available at Sylhet had been sent with Colonel Dunsford's Detachment to Jynteeahpore.

2. I have had the honor to forward, for His Excellency's information, a letter from Colonel Dunsford, reporting his proposed plans for reducing the Jynteeah Cossyahs. These plans will, I hope, reduce the portion of the Hills he is to visit; but as he has not included within his plans the south-eastern tract of the Hills, which is as yet very little known, and from which the Cossyahs have threatened the Plains in the direction of Moolagool in force, and levied contributions from the villages, I have considerd it necessary to send a Column into the Hills from that direction. Particularly as it was reported that they had established a stockade at Mooralee Poonjee.

3. I proceeded myself, on the 18th, in company with the Joint Magistrate, Mr. Smith, to make enquiries on the spot. On my arrival the Jemadar of the party of the 44th Native Infantry reported he had attacked and burnt the stockade, the report of which, with a translation made by Mr. Tayler, the Collector nad Magistrate, is herewith forwarded. I have directed the Jemadar, with a party of forty Rank and File, to return and hold the stockade, and I propose to send a force, as per margin, to Moolagool under Major Longmore, Commanding the 33rd Native Infantry, who will carry out the following arrangements.

2 Lieutenants.
1 Adjutant.
1 Surgeon.
4 Native Officers.
10 Havildars.
166 Rank and File.

4. Fifty Rank and File under a Native Officer will be stationed at Moolagool Hât to protect the depôt of stores that I have directed to be established there, and to furnish small Detachments to escort stores to the different posts in the interior.

5. A party of thirty Rank and File under a Native Officer will be posted at Mooralee Poonjee to protect the passage of the Lopha River, along which our supplies are to be forwarded.

6. He will advance on "Seting Bazar," and leave a party of fifty Rank and File there under a European Officer.

7. From "Seting Bazar" he will advance upon "Satongha" and "Hya Khoolah Bazar" with Jemadar's party of 44th Native Infantry and about fifty Rank and File of the 33rd Native Infantry.

8. The village and inhabitants of Satongha are represented to be one of the most violent in their opposition to the Government. It is probable I may find it necessary to leave a Detachment there to keep this village and those dependent on it to their allegiance.

9. I have further directed a Detachment under Lieutenant Walcott to proceed by Burrghât, Lukadanga, and Buttoo to Rambai, another village that is among the foremost in the insurrection.

10. By these movements, and those proposed by Colonel Dunsford, His Excellency will observe that the whole of the Hills in insurrection will be visited, and those principally engaged in instigating it will be occupied, so that it may be hoped the people, on seeing the hopelessness of their hostility, will return to their allegiance.

11. I propose myself to proceed, with an escort of thirty Rank and File *viâ* Jynteeahpore to Jowai, where I hope to have an opportunity of meeting Major Rowlatt and directing, in person, future operations if the movements now reported should not be successful.

The Report of Sewan Tewaree, of the 1st Company of the Local Regiment, dated 19th March 1862.

On the night of the 16th March I, accompanied by three Havildars, two Naicks, forty-five Sepoys, and one Bugler, together with the Thannah Darogah, Jemadar, and two Burkundauzes, started off for Mooralee. At about 4 A. M. we arrived at a place called Burra Cherra, and apprehended a Cossyah boy with rice, whom we found there. On

the morning of the 17th we saw some fifty to sixty armed Cossyahs on a Teelah to the west of Burra Cherra. We advanced on seeing them, whereupon they in turn retreated.

We then took several small boats and proceeded up the Lopha River towards Mooralee. On our way some Cossyahs, who had placed themselves on either side of the river in the Jungle, came out and abused us, and fired arrows and threw pieces of rock at us. We passed on, and on arriving at Mooralee, we saw more Cossyahs, armed with bows and arrows and other weapons, standing outside their stockade and assembled in two bodies; they commenced to abuse us. I gave the order to advance, whereupon they fled into the Jungles. We then went to the stockade and broke it up, and burnt the wood and a Guard-house in there.

Subsequently the villages of Mooralee and Chaploree were burnt, and we recovered some arrows and arms they had thrown away.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 22nd March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, Commanding Presidency Division, to the Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 34A., dated the 22nd March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, a copy of a confidential Circular I considered necessary to issue to the Officers Commanding the several Detachments in the Jynteeah Hills.

CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR.

THE Brigadier-General Commanding directs that the following Rules shall be observed by the different Detachments that are acting in the Jynteeah Hills for the suppression of the insurrection among the inhabitants :—

All men found in arms must be treated with that severity which open hostility to the State demands, and the Chiefs of these villages which are known to have been the principal instigators in the insur-

rection must have no terms granted to them. The Government alone can deal with them. They must be confined and made over to the Civil Officer who may accompany the Detachment.

All stockades and fortified posts must be levelled with the ground; all villages in arms must be attacked, and, after they are taken, the villagers should have the option of returning to them. A reasonable time must be allowed them to come in, and if they refuse, the village should be burned.

All Cossyahs who come in must give up their arms, after which they will be allowed to enter their homes; hostages, however, should be taken for their good conduct. Such hostages are to be selected in communication with the Civil Officers with Detachments, and they will be retained until the orders of Government shall be received for their disposal.

By Order, &c.,
(Sd.) E. K. O. GILBERT, *Captain*,
Offg. Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.

The 21st March 1862.

From MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 24, dated the 4th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to represent that I think the insurrection in the Jynteeah Territory has reached the stage at which recourse should be had to the provisions of Act No. XI. of 1857, being an Act for the prevention, trial, and punishment of offences against the State; and I would solicit that the Government do proclaim the Jynteeah Territory to be in a state of rebellion, and do thereupon issue their Commission under Clause 1, Section III. of the Act, for the trial of all persons who shall be charged with the commission of any of the crimes mentioned in the said Act.

2. I would recommend that Major E. A. Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, and Lieutenant-Colonel William Richardson, Commanding the 44th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, be Commissioners authorized by the Commission, and perhaps it would

be expedient to add my own name, as the contingency may easily occur in which it would be desirable that I should exercise the authority contemplated by the Act.

3. I also recommend the immediate declaration, by proclamation, against the having in possession or carrying arms in the terms of Section VII. of the Act; they are more comprehensive than the corresponding provisions of Act XXXI. of 1860, which do not include the most dangerous weapon of the Cossyah in their enumeration of arms, *viz.*, bows and arrows.

4. I might have proposed the establishment of Martial Law, under Regulation X. of 1804, in the Jynteeah Territory, but that I think the provisions of Act No. XI. of 1857 are every way more suitable to meet the required case.

From MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, and Commissioner of Assam, to E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 27, dated the 15th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit, herewith, copy of a letter, to my address, from Major Rowlatt, under date the 4th instant, briefly refering to the operations of the Troops up to the present time against the insurgents of Jynteeah *(A.)*, stating that the rebellion is far from being suppressed *(B.)*, giving his explanation of its origin and motives *(C.)*, and proposing that the country be proclaimed to be in rebellion and under Martial Law, and that the people of Jynteeah should be disarmed *(D.)*

A. Paragraphs 1 and 2.
B. Paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6.
C. Paragraphs 7, 8.
D. Paragraphs 10, 11, 12.

2. The letter does not contain anything that will come before the Government for the first time. I have already, in my letter No. 24, dated the 4th March, to which I here solicit an early reply, applied that Jynteeah be proclaimed in a state of rebellion, and be dealt with accordingly, and that the possession and carrying of Arms should be made penal; and, as to Major Rowlatt's account of the origin of the rebellion, it is but a summary of the causes which I have detailed in my letters No. 20 of the 28th of February, and No. 26 of the 10th

March. My latest intelligence from Major Rowlatt is dated the 8th of March, a private note mentioning that they had just received a reinforcement of the 28th Sheiks, and were to attack a place called Ooksen on the 10th instant. This is on the Sylhet side, to which quarter Major Rowlatt and Colonel Richardson have lately directed their attention; but on the Assam side Lieutenant Bartleman, writing from Nurteng, reports that they are throwing up works all round him, and that positions so gallantly carried by Colonel Richardson, as Munsow and Kalleeang, have been again re-occupied and stockaded by the enemy. On the 25th of last month a party of from twenty-five to fifty Jynteeah Cossyahs came into the Nowgong District and plundered the shops of two traders at a village named Ainsing, and the same day they plundered two more traders and carried off and murdered a Kyah Merchant named Sook Deo.

3. Judging from what has been the character in times past of the warfare of the Cossyah Tribes, it will not be long before the Jynteeah people get tired of fighting: even, though we obtain no extraordinary successes over them, their opposition will collapse of itself when food begins to grow scarce, and the season for cultivating arrives. They will disperse the majority slinking back to their villages, and the rest, the really unquiet ones, scattering themselves abroad over the country, and plundering in small parties of twos and threes; but next year if we withdraw too many of our Troops they will collect again and give us as much trouble as ever.

From Major E. A. Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 15A., dated Camp Amwai, the 4th March 1862.)

Sir,

Since the commencement of the present rebellion of the Cossyahs of the Jynteeah Hills you are already aware, from my previous Reports, that the Troops employed in the field have taken and destroyed four strongly stockaded villages, each time inflicting some loss on the

Rebels, with comparatively but few casualties occurring amongst the force acting against them.

2. Some of the Rebel's stores of paddy have been secured, and a few head of cattle captured—four suspected persons have also been apprehended, and troops now occupy the villages of Nurteng, Jowai, and Amwai, from whence parties are sent out to scour the country in their vicinity.

3. Notwithstanding all this I regret to say the rebellion appears to be as far from being suppressed as it was on the first day the troops entered the field.

4. From Nurteng Lieutenant Bartleman reports that the Rebels are stockading the villages all around him, and to the South and West of this place the villages of Uksai, Koodeng, and Nongbarai have all been stockaded, besides which the passes into the Hills *viâ* Burghat and Mooraleo are both closed by defences thrown across them for the purpose of preventing the entrance of troops into the Hills by those routes.

5. The main Road into the Hills from Jynteeahpore was also closed, and has only been opened since the arrival of troops at this place.

6. From this statement of the present condition of the country you will readily perceive that the rebellion is all but universal: in fact, with the exception of the people of this village, I may say that all are either openly or secretly our enemies.

7. It will be in your recollection that a rebellion of a similar nature to the present one occurred in 1860; also that on the occasion of our taking possession of the country in 1836, the Troops sent to occupy it were forcibly resisted in the time of the Rajah's government. I am further informed that the country was ravaged by perpetual warfare: in fact, war appears to have been the normal state amongst the people of these Hills; so that, unless stringent measures are adopted to deter these Cossyahs from resistance to lawful authority, there is no chance, I fear, of peace being preserved in the country for any length of time together.

8. The present rising, as far as I have yet been able to ascertain, has originated from the dislike of the people to taxation, and from impatience at any control being exercised over them by the Officers of

Government. They hope, I have little doubt, that by constantly rebeling they will induce us to give up the country, or, at all events, cease to demand any taxes, and to withdraw our Police and Military Guard at Jowai out of the country.

9. Now, to exempt the people from taxation would, in my opinion, be a fatal act of weakness on our part, and to give up the country would only be to expose the Plains of Assam and Sylhet to the constant inroads of these people who would certainly far prefer to subsist by plunder than have to provide food for themselves by honest means.

10. Such being the case I feel it to be my duty to recommend that until order shall have been thoroughly restored, and all the ringleaders in the present rebellion have been captured and punished, that the country should be placed under Martial Law, and also that the provisions of the Arms Act for the disarming of the people should be put in force and carried out with the utmost rigor, until all the Fire-arms now in the possession of these people have been secured.

11. My reasons for proposing the former are that trials, convictions, and sentences carried out on the spot by a Military Tribunal would, I conceive, have a far greater effect than if conducted at a distance by the Sessions Court, and after such a length of time had elapsed, which must occur, as would materially lessen the effect produced, and whose sentences would not be executed until the causes which led to the trials had almost been forgotten.

12. Regarding my second proposition I need only say that, if the people of the Jynteeah Hills are not thoroughly disarmed, the retention of Fire-arms made penal, and the importation of all such prohibited for the future, the difficulty of holding these Hills will go on continually increasing, and the expense both of life and money be such that the Government sooner or later will be obliged to adopt the measures I now propose, or others of a similar character to them.

13. Such being my view of the state of affairs in these Hills, I request you will do me the favor of submitting my propositions for the consideration and orders of Government, supporting them, should you agree with me as to the necessity of the measures proposed, with your approval and advocacy.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 795A., dated the 26th March 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the dates and numbers noted* in the margin, and to inform you in reply that the sanction of the Government of India has this day been solicited to the issue of a Proclamation, under Clause 1, Section III. of Act XI. of 1857, declaring the Jynteeah Territory to be in a state of rebellion, and of a Commission in your name and in those of Major Rowlatt and Colonel Richardson, making you and those Officers Commissioners under the Act for the trial of all offences therein referred to.

No. 24, dated 4th instant.
„ 27, „ 15th „

2. Meanwhile, the enclosed Proclamation will be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, under Section VII. of the Act, prohibiting persons other than those duly authorized from carrying arms in the Jynteeah Territory.

Proclamation,—(No. 797A., dated the 26th March 1862.)

WHEREAS the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal deems it necessary for the public safety that no person shall be allowed to carry, or have in his possession, any arms or instrument used for warlike purposes in the Jynteeah Territory, it is hereby declared, under Section VII., Act XI. of 1857, that, from and after the 1st of April next, it shall not be lawful for any person to carry, or have in his possession, any arms or instruments used for warlike purposes within the aforesaid Jynteeah Territory, except the Civil and Military Officers of Government and other persons specially exempted by the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of the District.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 794A., dated the 26th March 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of the endorsement from this Office No. 680, dated 18th instant, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a further correspondence* connected with the disturbances in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

* Letter from the Commissioner of Assam, No. 24, dated 4th instant.
Letter from the Commissioner of Assam, No. 26, dated 10th instant.
Letter from the Commissioner of Assam, No. 27, dated 15th instant.

2. Major Rowlatt, it will be observed, states that, although our Troops have destroyed four strongly stockaded villages of the Rebels, captured their cattle, and taken possession of some of their stores of paddy, the rebellion is far from being suppressed. The Rebels are again stockading the villages around Lieutenant Bartleman, and the passes into the Hills, viâ Burghât and Mooralee, have both been closed for the purpose of preventing the entrance of Troops into the Hills by those routes.

3. Major Rowlatt considers that the rebellion is all but universal, and the Commissioner also thinks that it has reached that stage at which recourse should be had to the provisions of Act XI. of 1857.

4. Under these circumstances, the Lieutenant-Governor proposes to publish, with the concurrence of the Government of India, the enclosed Proclamation declaring the Jynteeah Territory to be in a state of rebellion, and to follow it up with the issue of a Commission, in the names of the Officers named in the margin, for the trial of all offences referred to in that Act.

Major Hopkinson.
„ E. A. Rowlatt.
Lieut.-Col. W. Richardson

5. A Proclamation has already issued under Section VII. of the Act prohibiting persons other than those duly authorized to carry arms within the aforesaid Territory.

6. In regard to the remark contained in the 8th paragraph of Captain Rowlatt's letter of 4th March to Major Hopkinson, stating that the cause of rising, so far as he has yet been able to ascertain, has originated from the dislike of the people to taxation, I am directed to state that the Lieutenant-Governor awaits a report which has been called for from Major Hopkinson of the mode of the application of the Income Tax to the Jynteeah Territory, and how it was that no representation was previously made by Captain Rowlatt on the subject.

From W. GREY, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 1609, dated the 28th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE laid before the Governor General in Council your letter No. 791A., dated the 26th instant, forwarding communications from

Major Hopkinson and Major Rowlatt regarding the insurrection in Jynteeah, and stating that, with the concurrence of the Government of India, the Lieutenant-Governor proposes to publish a Proclamation declaring the Jynteeah Territory to be in a state of rebellion, and to follow it up with the issue of a Commission, under Act XI. of 1857, to Major Hopkinson, Major Rowlatt, and Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson for the trial of all offences referred to in that Act.

2. In reply I am desired to say that the Governor General in Council would not wish to interfere with the discretion of the Lieutenant-Governor if, under the circumstances described in the enclosures of your letter, he considers it necessary to proclaim the Jynteeah District in the manner proposed.

3. In making this intimation, however, His Excellency in Council cannot refrain from remarking on the extreme meagreness of the information furnished by the Local Authorities in regard to the progress of events since the commencement of this disturbance to the present time, and, what is more striking, to the apparent absence of any proper endeavor on the part of Major Rowlatt to procure reliable information as to the causes and the object of the movement, and to take any other than measures of force for its repression.

4. The Governor General in Council feels anxious to afford the Lieutenant-Governor the fullest support and assistance in dealing with this insurrection, and I am desired to state that, if it should seem expedient to His Honor to place the entire Civil and Military control of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills in the hands of one Officer, His Excellency in Council will gladly place at His Honor's disposal, for that purpose, the services of Brigadier-General Showers, who has recently, as His Honor is aware, proceeded to the North-East Frontier on a special tour of inspection. Under such an arrangement the authority of the Commissioner of Assam would necessarily, for the time, be wholly superseded in the tract placed under the Brigadier-General, who would be charged with the entire and exclusive Civil and Military Administration, but the District Officers might continue to conduct their duties under the orders of the latter precisely as they now do under the orders of the Commissioner. It would be advisable also to suspend the jurisdiction of the Board of Revenue, the Brigadier-General corresponding on all matters, both of

Revenue and Police, direct with the Local Government, and receiving his orders from the Lieutenant-Governor alone.

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 897A., dated the 1st April 1862, 17-20)

INFORM General Showers that he has been invested with Chief Civil authority in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills. The Civil Officers in that Territory are henceforth subordinate to him. Place Mr. Smith of Sylhet at his disposal with the powers of a Magistrate. Written orders will follow, but this telegram may be acted upon at once. Inform Commissioner of Assam of this.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 888A., dated the 2nd April 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to inform you that, with the concurrence of His Excellency the Governor General of India in Council, who has placed your services at the disposal of this Government for the purpose, the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to place in your hands the entire Civil control of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills. Whilst holding these powers you will be designated as Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

2. Under this arrangement the authority of the Commissioner of Assam will be wholly superseded in the above mentioned tract, but the District Officers will continue to conduct their duties under your orders precisely as they now do under the orders of Major Hopkinson. The services of Mr. Smith, at present the Officiating Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Sylhet, are placed at your disposal as your Assistant in the Civil Department. Mr. Smith is vested with the full powers of a Magistrate in these Hills.

3. The jurisdiction of the Board of Revenue will also be suspended in that part of the country; and you will correspond on matters both of Revenue and Police directly with this Government, receiving your orders from the Lieutenant-Governor alone.

4. A Proclamation has already been issued forbidding other than duly authorized persons to carry arms in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, and another Proclamation will follow, declaring the Jynteeah Territory in a state of rebellion. This last will be accompanied by a Commission, under Act XI. of 1857, in your name and the names of Major Rowlatt and Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson for the trial of all offences referred to in that Act.

5. As the Lieutenant-Governor understands from copies of communications which have been submitted to this Government that you have already visited in your Military capacity part of the country in rebellion, he trusts that you will be able to inform him, at an early date, of the origin and extent of the insurrection. Hitherto the Lieutenant-Governor regrets to observe, that the information which has been placed before him has been of such a meagre character as to preclude him from issuing any particular instructions on the subject. Beyond a vague and unsupported statement that the Income Tax is supposed to have caused the insurrection, Major Rowlatt has afforded no information whatever regarding the motive, origin, or character of this event. The Lieutenant-Governor feels that, while you will be prompt to punish all open resistance, and to secure the early submission of the insurgent party, your object will also be to inform yourself and to report upon the points on which the Government is now in the dark; and to explain to all the people of the Jynteeah Hills that if they have any grievances to complain of, such grievances will be duly considered if represented in a proper manner.

No. 889A.

Copy forwarded to the Commissioner of Assam for information.

No. 890A.

Copy forwarded to the Officiating Commissioner of Dacca for information.

No. 891A.

Copy forwarded to the Board of Revenue for information.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 884A., dated the 2nd April 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1609, dated the 28th ultimo, and, with reference to the 4th paragraph thereof, to state that the Lieutenant-Governor has gladly availed himself of the proferred services of Brigadier-General Showers, and has, in anticipation of formal sanction, invested him with plenary powers in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

2. A copy of the letter* of instructions addressed to General Showers is herewith submitted for the information of the Government of India.

* No. 888A. of this day's date.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, Commanding Presidency Division, MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, and LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding the 44th Regiment, Bengal Native Infantry,—(Nos. 885A., 886A., and 887A., dated the 2nd April 1852.)

SIR,

I AM directed to inform you that the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to appoint you to be a Commissioner, under Act XI. of 1857, in the Jynteeah Territory for the trial of all crimes and offences punishable under the said Act, and to forward to you a Commission duly signed by him.

Proclamation,—(No. 892A., dated the 2nd April 1862.)

IT is hereby proclaimed and notified, that the Jynteeah Territory being in a state of rebellion, Commissioners have been appointed, under Section III. of Act No. XI. of 1857, for the trial of all persons who shall be charged with having committed, within that Territory, any of the crimes mentioned in Sections I., II., or III. of that Act; and that the full powers specified in Section IV. of the said Act have been conferred upon the Commissioners.

Memorandum from MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, and Commissioner, North-East Frontier,—(No. 27, dated the 24th March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, and Commissioner of Assam, to Major-General St. G. D. Showers, Commanding the Presidency Division,—(No. 17, dated the 24th March 1862.)

Sir,

In accordance with instructions received from Government, I have the honor to place the services of Mr. Extra Assistant Commissioner J. B. Shadwell at your disposal while you may be engaged in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Frontier, or so long as you may require them.

2. Mr. Shadwell writes me that you have applied to him direct for his services, and that very properly he has placed himself under your orders, making over his Treasury to Lieutenant W. Campbell, Commanding at Cherra Poonjee. I shall be obliged by your, directing Lieutentant Campbell to continue in charge of the Treasury until I can make other arrangements.

3. Mr. Shadwell has been instructed that he attends you, as nearly as possible, in the relation of a personal Assistant, that you may avail yourself of his local knowledge, and that he may help you to information. He will not, of course, interfere in any way, or take any part in your communications with the regular District Officers, nor has he any other power except common Magisterial power.

4. Mr. Shadwell is the only Officer I have familiar with the Cossyah language, and on that account I trust that you will find him most useful.

From J. P. H. Ward, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 946A., dated the 4th April 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to inform you, in reply to your communication No. 27, dated the 24th ultimo, that the Lieutenant-Governor approves of your having placed the services of Extra Assistant Commissioner Mr. J. B. Shadwell at the disposal of Major-General Showers, the Commissioner in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated 26th March 1862.)

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division, to the Adjutant-General of the Army, Head-Quarters,—(No. 29A., dated the 26th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, a Report from Colonel H. F. Dunsford, C. B., Commanding the Troops in Sylhet, of the successful attack of the stockaded village of "Ralliong" by the Troops under his Command on the 20th instant.

2. I beg to call His Excellency's attention to the excellent arrangements made by Colonel Dunsford in planning the attack on this position, and to the completeness of his plans for surrounding the village of "Munsow," to which may be attributed the evacuation of this strongly fortified position without resistance.

3. I have also to submit, for His Excellency's favorable consideration, the good conduct and cheerful spirit displayed by the Troops engaged in these harassing operations.

From COLONEL H. F. DUNSFORD, C. B., Commanding Troops in Sylhet, to the Assistant Adjutant-General of the Presidency Division,—(dated Camp Munsow, the 23rd March 1862.)

SIR,

MY Progress Report, which I forward with this for submission to Brigadier-General Showers, C. B., Commanding the Presidency Division, will have informed you of my having engaged the Rebels at Ralliong on the 20th instant. I have now the honor to transmit a more detailed account of the action.

The village of Ralliong is situated about twenty miles east north-east of Jowai, and is a large and prosperous Town built as most of the villages in this part of the country, and in a very scattered manner, the houses being in clusters of three and four together on the slopes of hills with ravines running between the different clusters; they are well raised, substantially built of wood, with plank or matted walls, and thatched roofs.

Major Rowlatt, the Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah Hills, who accompanies me, had received intimation from his spies that the place was strongly stockaded and we might anticipate considerable opposition. I marched from Shamphong with the Force as per margin, and on approaching within about two hundred yards of the stockade of Ralliong, which is distant from the village about a quarter of a mile, I found a strong stockade had been thrown across the road, extending, in a semi-circular form, about 250 yards, the strongest part of which lay immediately across the road (a narrow foot-path) by which I was advancing.

28th Regiment, Punjab Infantry.	44th Regiment, Native Infantry.
4 European Officers.	4 European Officers.
6 Native Officers.	3 Native Officers.
198 Rank and File.	174 Rank and File.

The former experience of Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, Commanding Her Majesty's 44th Regiment, Native Infantry, and Major Rowlatt, had taught them that the stockade on the path-way was always the strongest and most obstinately defended, and thus cautioned me to avoid an assault on that if possible. I therefore directed a Company of the 28th Regiment, Punjab Infantry, and a Company of the 44th Regiment Native Infantry to endeavor to turn the flanks, but owing to the deep and precipitous ravines in front this was found impracticable, and they simultaneously attacked each side and under a heavy fire of matchlocks and arrows carried it with a rush. The loss to the Rebels was not very severe, as we found only two bodies in the entrenchment, and three said to have been killed by the parties I immediately sent into the ravines in pursuit. The entrenchment consisted of a ditch about three feet deep and as many wide, filled with a *chevaux de frise* of sharp spiked bamboos; the earth had been thrown up as a breastwork and was heavily loop-holed and crowned by a thick palisade of spiked, closely entwined bamboos six or seven feet high. The density of the jungle favored the retreat of the Rebels, and, lightly equipped as they are, when once they get into the ravines and jungles it is almost hopeless to pursue. Our loss was trifling, being two men slightly wounded with arrows, and four by bamboo stakes. The stockade and village have been totally destroyed, and I yesterday made a march on this place, which is also heavily stockaded; but the Rebels, seeing I had made arrangements to attack them on all sides at once, again resorted to their ravines and

jungles, and we entered without opposition an extensive double line of stockade which it must have taken some some eight hundred or a thousand men hard labor for a month to erect. This is the first occasion of their giving up a stockade without some shew of resistance, and may I hope, be taken as an indication of their feeling the contest to be hopeless, and that they may now soon return to their more peaceable pursuits. Although their loss of life may not have been considerable, they will for many years feel the loss of property the rebellion has cost them, as it has been the Deputy Commissioner's policy throughout to destroy stockaded villages, a duty he has been enabled to carry out by the success which has hitherto attended all the assaults made by Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson and his gallant Regiment.

The health and spirits of Officers and men are excellent, though the duties have been harassing. Our future movements will depend upon the reports received by the Deputy Commissioner.

From Colonel H. F. Dunsford, c. b., Commanding Troops in Sylhet, to Captain E. K. O. Gilbert, Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(dated Camp Munsow, the 23rd March 1862.)

Sir,

For the information of Brigadier-General Showers, c. b., Commanding the Presidency Division, I have the honor to report progress since the date of my last communication, dated 15th instant.

16*th March.*—Entered the Cossyah Hills from Jynteeahpore to Amwai Poonjee, a distance of twenty miles, accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson and Major Rowlatt, leaving a Detachment of sixty-three Rank and File of the 44th Regiment Native Infantry, under a Native Officer at Jynteeahpore. My former letter reported the arrangements I had made for the protection of the Southern portion of these Hills by the Detachment of the 28th Regiment Punjab Infantry, under the Command of Captain Robinson, and Detachments of the 44th Regiment Native Infantry, at Moollagool and Gowine Ghât.

17*th March.*—From Amwai Poonjee to Jowai, a distance of twelve miles, leaving a Detachment of thirty-four Rank and File under a Native Officer for the former place.

18*th March.*—From Jowai to the villages of Chota and Burra Latta-bur, the former a strong stockaded village which had been previously carried by Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, the latter deserted but not stockaded as was represented, and consequently spared at the request of the Deputy Commissioner, whose policy it has been throughout to spare those villages which have shewn no menacing attitude, although the feelings and actions of the occupants may have been otherwise unfriendly. Returned to Jowai about sunset.

19*th March.*—From Jowai to Shamphong about twelve miles. This village had been strongly stockaded and been carried with severe loss to the Rebels by one of Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson's spirited attacks and was supposed to have been again placed in a state of defence; but I found it much the same as he represents it to have been left. A few shots and arrows fired on our pickets from the jungles at night, but without effect.

20*th March.*—Left Shamphong for Ralliong at 9 A. M., and arrived about 11 before a strong stockade, covering the south-western front of the village and extending semi-circularly about 250 yards; the entrance or gateway being in the centre, exactly in the road (a narrow foot-path) commanded by a flanking fire on each side, the village being surrounded by dense jungle of forest and under-wood with deep ravines (or korrungs as they are here termed) immediately in front. The stockade consisted of a ditch about three feet wide and as many deep with a *chevaux de frise* of sharp pointed bamboos at the bottom and for many yards in advance of it. The earth from the ditch had been thrown up as an embankment to about six feet high, loop-holed and surmounted by thick closely entwined bamboos about the same height as the ditch. On approaching within 200 yards of the place I threw a Company of the 28th, and a Company of the 44th Regiment Native Infantry, into skirmishing order with directions to turn the flanks, but this was found impracticable from the deep ravines to their front. Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson and Major Rowlatt had given me the benefit of their former experience and cautioned me against an attack in front, which the Rebels were always prepared for and made their strongest and best defended position. The attack was consequently made on both flanks at once by the skirmishers and carried with the trifling loss of two men slightly wounded by arrows, and four by stakes of pointed bamboos.

The Rebels dispersed down the ravines and dense jungles, and I at once sent out skirmishers in pursuit, but the density of the jungles renders such pursuit almost hopeless against men so lightly equipped and acquainted with every route and by-path. We killed two Rebels within the stockade and three are reported to have been killed in the jungle. It is difficult to estimate the number opposed to us on this occasion, but I should imagine, from the sharp fusilade kept up on us on our approach, the Rebels must have had about forty or fifty fire-arms, and have numbered in all from three to four hundred. The two killed in the entrenchment were armed with matchlocks and their weapons have been captured. The village of Ralliong is apparently a large and prosperous one; the houses good and well stored with rice in the husk. It will be destroyed on our leaving it, unless the ringleaders succumb. Bivouacked for the night in the village the pickets constantly fired on but without loss.

21*st March.*—Left Ralliong with an escort of twenty-five men of the 28th Regiment Punjab Infantry, and the same number of the 44th Regiment Native Infantry, accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson and Major Rowlatt, to reconnoitre the village of Munsow, a distance of about twelve miles. The country for the most part open and undulating with a tolerable road. An occasional shot from scouts from the jungles but without effect. Got within about 300 yards of the stockade which I found extended about a quarter of a mile from south-west to north-east along the crest of a high Hill with a flanking stockade running due east at the foot of the Hill. The ravines on the east very steep but not very thickly wooded, those on the west steep and dense jungle. Returned to Ralliong about sunset, the stockades of which were burnt during my absence.

23*rd March.*—Left Ralliong, accompanied by all the Force at my disposal, at 8 A. M., leaving a strong rear Guard with instructions to burn the Town, and arrived opposite Munsow about eleven. Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, with a party of fifty of the 28th Regiment Punjab Infantry, and fifty of the 44th Regiment Native Infantry, made a detour to the right to take the Rebels in rear if possible, with instructions to fire a volley as a signal on getting into position. A similar number of the same Regiment under my own personal Command were held in readiness for the assault in the north-eastern front. A party of fifty

men, under Captain Buist, Adjutant, 44th Regiment Native Infantry, to make a false attack on the south, their strongest point; a party of twenty men under a Native Officer to scour the ravines and jungles on the west; and Lieutenant Bartleman, with fifty Sepoys of the 43rd Regiment Native Infantry, whom I had previously summoned to co-operate with me from Nurteng, to look out for stragglers on the north and north-west. All our arrangements were completed by twelve and with every chance of success, when we found, on advancing, the place was completely evacuated and the extensive fortifications, which must have taken some eight hundred or a thousand men for about a month to construct, were left undefended. I have had men scouring the ravines and jungles all day, but from the extreme difficulty of the country the Rebels are enabled to effect their escape with impunity, and three of their number only have been killed. From their making no attempt to defend a stockade which it has cost them so much labor and expense to erect, it may, I think, be inferred that they feel it now hopeless to contend against the Force brought against them. I intend to halt to-morrow to destroy the defences, and my subsequent movements will depend on the reports brought in of the Rebels.

The health and spirits of both Officers and men in these harassing duties are excellent.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding the Presidency Division,—(dated the 27th March 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding the Presidency Division, to the Adjutant-General of the Army, Head-Quarters,—(No. 35A., dated Camp Jowai, the 27th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that I formed my Head-Quarters at this place on the 25th instant, and found that Colonel Dunsford, C. B., with the Force under his Command, had the day before returned from his expedition against "Ralliong" and "Munsow," the report of which I have submitted with my letter No. 29A. of the 26th instant.

2. I have now the pleasure to forward, for submission to His Excellency and for the information of Government, a Report from Major Rowlatt, the Deputy Commissioner of the District, stating that the Rebels have dispersed in small parties, and that there is but little probability of their attempting any further combined resistance, and recommending that four or five of the principal villages of the Rebels should be occupied by our Detachments, so as to afford any necessary aid to the Police in restoring the pacification of the District.

3. This successful result of our Military operations in the District is very satisfactory. It is to be attributed to the activity of Colonel H. F. Dunsford, C. B., immediately on assuming Command of the Troops, and to the previous operations of Lieutenant-Colonel W. Richardson, Commanding 44th Native Infantry.

4. I have already reported my opinion of Colonel Dunsford's expedition against the stockaded villages of "Ralliong" and "Munsow," and it is now my duty to bring to the favorable notice of His Excellency the spirited and well-planned assaults made by Lieutenant-Colonel W. Richardson and the small body of men under his Command, on the stockaded positions of "Jalong," "Munsow," "Latoober," and "Ooksaie." The conduct of both these Officers, with the Officers and men under their Command from the 28th and 44th Native Infantry, merit the approbation of the Commander-in-Chief and of Government.

5. As arranged with Major Rowlatt I have directed the Detachments of the 33rd Native Infantry, under the Command of Major Longmore and Lieutenant Walcott, to continue their march on the villages of "Satongah" and "Batao," and on their occupying these positions they will maintain them until further orders.

6. The villages of "Nurteng," "Munsow," and "Nongtalong" will also be held by Detachments from the 28th and 44th Native Infantry, and Colonel Dunsford, C. B., Commanding in the District, will have his Head-Quarters at "Jowai." These Detachments will have out-posts in the villages in the vicinity, and will send out parties to patrol the country, and it will be observed that the positions they occupy will command the whole of the disturbed portion of the District. They are generally within one or two days march of one another, and no body of Rebels can be assembled, and no stockade built up, without being attacked by one or other of the Detachments.

7. As this is the second time the District has broken out against the State, I have to recommend that these Detachments should retain their posts throughout the rains.

From MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding the Presidency Division,—(dated the 22nd March 1862.)

SIR,

As all the stockaded villages of the Jynteeah Rebels have now been taken, and the Rebels themselves have dispersed and become scattered in small bodies, there seems, I think, but little probability of their attempting any further combined resistance. All, therefore, that now remains to be done towards the pacification of the country is to occupy these Hills with Troops so as effectually to prevent the Rebels from rallying at any one particular point, which can, I think, be best effected by placing Detachments of Troops at four or five of the principal villages and so distributed that, should the Police require the support of the Military, some may be near at hand to afford them the necessary aid. At present the Police Force at my disposal is so limited that they, by themselves, can do but little. I have, however, received permission from the Agent to the Governor General, North-East Frontier, to raise an additional Force for service in the Jynteeah Hills, and as soon as they are organized they will be employed in apprehending the ringleaders; this done, there will be no chance of further disturbances taking place, and as the Rebel leaders are secured, the Troops might be gradually withdrawn, leaving, of course, a strong Detachment at Jowai which must, as hitherto, be occupied by a Military Guard of sufficient strength to resist any attacks that could be made against it. I further am of opinion that it will be politic to keep a larger Force in these Hills than that stationed in them previous to the outbreak of the present rebellion, as the small numbers available for active operations at the commencement of the disturbances undoubtedly encouraged the Rebels to resist, and induced many to join in the rebellion who, if a greater display of force could have been made at once, would not have ventured to do so.

2. As the above comprises the result of our conference of this morning, I trust you will do me the favor of issuing your orders for carrying the same into effect as soon as may be practicable.

From MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, and Commissioner of Assam, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 36, dated the 28th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit herewith a note which I have just received from Major Rowlatt, as it is possible that, being of late date, it may reach you earlier than any intelligence he has forwarded the Government direct, and I should be glad that the Government received the earliest intimation that the troubles in Jynteeah promised at length to be coming to a close.

2. It would seem as if the insurrection had died out, or was about to die out, pretty much in the way I reported to Government I thought it would, that the insurgents would give in out of sheer weariness without our having the opportunity of punishing them very severely.

3. I hope Major Rowlatt's messenger will be in time to stop the advance of the Brigadier-General and the two Columns of the 33rd Regiment.

From MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, and Commissioner of Assam,—(dated Camp Jowai, the 25th March 1862.)

MY DEAR HOPKINSON,

JUST a line to say that we arrived here yesterday evening from Munsow; we remained there on the 22nd and 23rd, and have left a party of fifty men to prevent the Rebels from rallying again at that place, but as it was not defended I think they now see it is perfectly hopless to hold out against us any longer; so as far as fighting goes the affair is, I believe, ended. I shall now direct my attention chiefly to getting hold of the ringleaders, and when they are secured the country will soon settle down quietly. By yesterday's Dâk we received letters from General Showers telling us he had arrived at Cherra Poonjee, and would be here to-day; he told me he had ordered two Columns of the 33rd to enter the Hills, one *viâ* Moorallee, and the other by Burghât. I hope they won't have got far before we shall be able to stop them, as it is quite unnecessary to have any more Troops sent into the Hills. As soon as the General arrives I shall try to get him to settle something regarding the position the stockade here should

occupy; the present place is, I consider, untenable. Now that these Khasseahs are beginning to use fire-arms it must either be built at some other place here; or, if one is not procurable, at Nurteng. When this is acceded to I shall be able to answer your letter about the roads required in these Hills. I shall also try to get the General to go to Shillong, where I am very anxious to go to meet McRae, who, I hear, is to be there in a day or two. I am glad to see the Government wish to have the road carried on as quickly as possible. I think it must be passable all the way down by this time.

From J. P. H. Ward, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 969A., dated the 7th April 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 36, dated the 28th ultimo, and its enclosure, and in reply to state that the Lieutenant-Governor is glad to hear that the insurrection is at an end; but that he cannot think it at all creditable to the local administration that absolutely nothing whatever has even yet been ascertained of the cause of the rising.

2. Indeed Major Rowlatt not only does not appear to have made the slightest attempt to enquire into the cause, but he even now seems not to be the least aware that his duty requires him to make any attempt of the sort; whilst this supineness does not seem to have attracted your attention.

3. A copy of this correspondence will be sent to General Showers, under whose orders Major Rowlatt now is.

No. 970A.

Copy of this letter, and of the one to which it is a reply, forwarded for the information of the Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteah Hills.

No. 971A.

Copy of this letter, and of the one to which it is a reply, forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, for information.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER P. HARRIS, Commanding at the Presidency,—(dated the 24th April 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED to the Adjutant-General of the Army for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. The selection of a Detachment to visit the line of country between Burghât and Battoo was very judicious, and it was well conducted by Captain Robinson.

From COLONEL H. F. DUNSFORD, Commanding Sylhet Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Assistant Adjutant-General, with BRIGADIER GENERAL SHOWERS, C. B., Sylhet,—(No. 53, dated Camp Jowai, the 29th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for submission to the Brigadier-General, Commanding the Division, the Diary of Captain Robinson, Commanding the Left Wing of the 28th Regiment Punjab Infantry, together with a separate Report of that Officer's advance from Nongtalong to Battoo, and I would beg to solicit the Brigadier-General's attention to the able manner in which Captain Robinson seems to have carried out his arduous duties.

From CAPTAIN A. ROBINSON, Commanding Left Wing, 28th Regiment Punjab Infantry, to COLONEL DUNSFORD, C. B., Commanding the Sylhet District,—(dated Nongtalong, 14th March 1862.)

SIR,

7th March 1862.—I have the honor to forward you a Diary of the proceedings of the Left Wing, 28th Regiment Punjab Infantry, since its arrival at this village. I broke ground from Jynteeahpore at 10 A. M. on the 7th for this place. Part of the Wing I brought in boats to the foot of the Hills and as there was a great scarcity of boats, I had to send some of my men on elephants across country. The two

Detachments met at the foot of the Hill at 3 P. M., when I commenced my march up the Hill and reached Nongtalong a little before dusk. Here I met Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson and Major Rowlatt. By Colonel Richardson I was directed to make a reconnoissance of the stockade of Ooska on the 9th instant, and to meet him at noon on the following day, the 10th, and make a combined attack on the stockade.

8th March.—Halted this day.

9th March.—Marched from Nongtalong at 7½ A. M., with a Detachment, strength as per margin. The road or pathway was over most difficult country and completely surrounded by dense jungles. The descent to a ravine and opposite ascent was very trying and harassing to the men. Reached the top of the Hill without opposition, and, after proceeding for half a mile, saw some half a dozen of the enemy in front waiting our approach. I detached a couple of File of men to look after these fellows, but they had disappeared in the jungle. I now considered it necessary to move with the greatest caution, as the jungle was so dense on either side of the pathway, it was quite impossible to see half a dozen yards into it, but it afforded capital cover to the enemy. I advanced three File in extended order to precede the Detachment, when within 300 yards of the stockade a volley of arrows was fired into my advanced skirmishers. The enemy were imperfectly seen for a moment and then disappeared down the Hill. A pretty sharp fire was kept up in the direction from which the arrows first came, and one of the enemy killed. I now considered it advisable to return having gained the information I came in search of, *viz.*, how many hours it would take me the following day to reach the stockade by noon from Nongtalong. No sooner had I turned my back on the stockade than the whole of the surrounding Hills teemed with yells and cries of the enemy; they hovered in our rear and sight as we were descending the Hill to the ravine, pouring down masses of rock and stone on us. On reaching the ravine the howling and screaming of these savages was perfectly deafening. They fancied, I imagined, they had got us into a trap. We were met here by a volley of arrows and stones from both Hills. My guide also informed me the pass we had come by in the morning was occupied by the enemy. Fortunately there was

1 Captain.
1 Assistant Surgeon.
1 Subadar.
1 Havildar.
3 Naicks.
30 Sepoys.
1 Bugler.

another road a little to our right and less precipitous; the enemy were in full force here, also hurling stones down on us. There was nothing left for us but to run the gauntlet and get to the top of the Hill as soon as possible. I directed my men to keep up a continued fire in any direction they thought the enemy might be. This checked them in a measure. I finally reached the top of the Hill fortunately without losing a man. I reached my camp at Nongtalong by 5 P. M. Of the enemy killed this day there were six, and one wounded,

10th March.—Marched from Nongtalong at 6½ A. M., strength as per margin, leaving a Havildar party for the protection of the Magazines and camp. Reached Ooska exactly at noon, as appointed by Colonel Richardson. Met with no opposition of any kind on the way. As soon as my Detachment appeared in front of the stockade a shower of arrows was poured into us. I directed a part of my men to keep up a brisk fire on the stockade, and with the rest closed in. As soon as an entrance was effected, which occupied from five to ten minutes, the enemy were seen escaping in the opposite direction down the Hill. My men had not an opportunity of closing with them. The village was burnt to the ground; not a hut was left. I had three men wounded in the attack. Colonel Richardson desired me to leave a Native Officer party in the stockade to prevent the enemy re-occupying it. This was done, and I commenced, with the remainder of my Detachment, my march back to Nongtalong. At the ravine mentioned in yesterday's Report I halted the men for refreshments, having taken in haversack a day's supply with me. After an hour I commenced ascending the Hill the Detachment had come by in the morning. Sending on an advanced Guard in extended order, they had gone not more than a couple of hundred yards, when several massive rocks were hurled down upon them. To-day the enemy were particularly quiet and there was no means of ascertaining their whereabouts. As this ascent was particularly steep and straight I must have lost a number of men had I attempted to force it. I at once sounded the retreat and re-commenced the ascent by the path I had taken yesterday. Here also the enemy were prepared to oppose our progress, and the opposition offered was much more determined than on the previous occasion. The only method of disposing of the enemy was by keeping up an irregular and continued fire. In about half an hour the Detachment reached

1 Captain.
1 Lieutenant.
1 Assistant Surgeon.
2 Subadars.
2 Jemadars.
10 Havildars.
4 Buglers.
58 Rank and File.

the crest of the Hill without the loss of a man. One Havildar in the ascent received a severe contusion of the thigh from a fragment of a rock. Reached Nongtalong at ½ past 5 P. M.

1 Lieutenant.
1 Doctor.
1 Jemadar.
2 Havildars.
1 Bugler.
24 Rank and File.

11*th March.*—Detached a party, strength as per margin, under Lieutenant Marshall, to convey provisions to the party left yesterday at the stockade of Ooska, with instructions to return the following day; also wrote to Colonel Richardson, informing him I could not provision the Ooska party without running the chance of losing a number of men from rocks and stones hurled down on us, having for two consecutive days met with obstinate and determined opposition. I beg to append Lieutenant Marshall's Report.

1 Captain.
1 Subadar.
2 Havildars.
1 Bugler.
2 Rank and File.

12*th March.*—I left camp this morning about 11 o'clock with all the available men I had, strength as per margin, leaving the usual Guards for the protection of the village. My object in moving out to day was to keep the way clear for Lieutenant Marshall's party who, I expected, would return by the ravine, the route he had taken yesterday, and where such determined opposition had been offered on two previous occasions. After waiting for two hours I heard firing at a distance, and seeing no signs of my party returning I determined on going to the village of Sookah which, I had been given to understand, was stockaded. When within a few hundred yards of the place two of the villagers came to surrender. On reaching Sookah I found it completely deserted. I destroyed and burnt the stockade but spared the village, as I was told a number of the villagers proposed coming in the following day to give themselves up, and returned to Nongtalong by ½ past 5 P. M.

1 Captain.
1 Lieutenant.
1 Doctor.
2 Subadars.
2 Jemadars.
9 Havildars.
12 Naicks.
4 Buglers.
100 Sepoys.

13*th March.*—Marched from Nongtalong for the stockade of Lamin at 10 A. M., with party as per margin. Previous to leaving camp some fifteen of the Lamin men came in, and some from Sookah. Reached Lamin by noon. When about halfway met from fifteen to twenty men on their way to camp to surrender, and at Lamin another batch gave themselves up. Passing through the village and advancing some 600 yards I came on the stockade, which was in an

incomplete state. The approach to it was by a ravine commanded by a gate-way where the enemy would undoubtedly, had the stockade been defended, have made a stout resistance. It was built something in the shape of a horse shoe and presented a front of, I should think at least, from 600 to 700 yards with dense jungle up to the wall. I destroyed as much of the stockade as possible during the three hours I remained. I then returned to my own camp, bringing with me all the villagers who had surrendered.

14th, 15th, and *16th March.*—Halted during these three days. More villagers from Lamin, Sookah, and Koodeng came in, bringing with them swords, spears, shields, and a great number of bows and arrows.

17th March.—Marched from Nongtalong at 6½ A. M., party as per margin, for the purpose of completely destroying the stockade at Lamin. Taking with me the whole of the villagers who had surrendered from that place, fifty-three in number, and some thirty coolies from this, reached Lamin by 8½ A. M. and found it re-occupied. Fired into the stockade. The whole of the villagers, besides those I had with me, most readily and willingly turned out to assist in destroying the stockades. By three P. M., I had entirely destroyed the wall, a very massive one, and which had evidently been built for many years. The wood-work I collected into heaps and burned to ashes. By three P. M., the whole stockade was destroyed. I released the whole of the Prisoners but two the most influential men of the village. I regret I have not yet been able to apprehend the head man. I have offered a reward of 10 Rupees for him, and I fully anticipate before long to see him brought in.

1 Captain.
1 Lieutenant.
2 Subadars.
2 Jemadars.
6 Havildars.
12 Naicks.
4 Buglers.
30 Sepoys.

From LIEUTENANT H. S. MARSHALL, 28th Regiment Punjab Infantry, to CAPTAIN A. ROBINSON, Commanding Left Wing, 28th Regiment Native Infantry,—(dated Nongtalong, the 12th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for your information, that on the morning of the 11th instant I started with a Detachment, strength as per margin, about 10 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of conveying provisions to a Guard left at the stockaded village of Ooska. About 11 A. M., on

1 Lieutenant.
1 Assistant Surgeon.
1 Jemadar.
2 Havildars.
2 Naicks.
1 Bugler.
46 Sepoys.

the same day, whilst ascending the opposite side of the ravine (previously mentioned by you) we were opposed by the enemy, who hurled very large masses of rock on us, thereby wounding Assistant Surgeon Thornton, one Sepoy, and one coolie. We reached the above-mentioned stockade about noon, where I found Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson and his party engaged in destroying it. At ½ past 3 o'clock P. M. I left the stockade in question and proceeded to Padoo, where Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson is quartered, and remained there during the night. On the morning of the 12th instant at 10 A. M., I marched from Padoo taking a different route, so as to avoid the ravine. About ½ past 11 A. M., I arrived at a stockaded village, which was abandoned by the enemy and destroyed it as much as possible. We arrived at Nongtalong at ½ past 3 P. M. unmolested by the enemy.

From CAPTAIN A. ROBINSON, Commanding Left Wing, 28th Regiment Native Infantry, to COLONEL H. F. DUNSFORD, C. B., Commanding the Troops in the Cossyah Hills,—(dated Nongtalong, the 27th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for your information, that, agreeably to instructions given me by Major Rowlatt, Commissioner, Cossyah Hills, in your Camp at Jynteeahpore, on the 15th instant, that I should visit, if practicable, the villages of Battoo and Lunkadong, on my return from your Camp on the 16th instant, I proceeded the following day to Lamin to burn the remainder of the stockade, I was unable for want of time to complete on my first visit.

On the 21st instant the men of the Left Wing you had left behind at Jynteeahpore joined me, and on the morning of the 22nd I started from this village with my Detachment, strength as per margin, leaving behind a Guard for the protection of my Camp. Previous to marching I had made minute enquiries, and ascertained there was no good road to Battoo except by Jynteeahpore. I reached this latter place by 2 P. M. on the 22nd, and there learnt I should have to proceed part of the way by water. I directed the Darogah to collect as many boats as he could for me, and on the following morning, the 23rd, I was told sixty-four were in readiness some six miles off. I marched the Detachment off across country to the place where the boats were

No detail given. R. J. E.

collected, and embarked for Burghât, at which place I proposed halting. On the way I came across two villages, Vissaden and Khokunah, both deserted; the inhabitants being in the surrounding jungle. They gave us a volley of abuse and warned the villagers on ahead of our approach. About a mile from Burghât I met with four very strong rapids over which each boat had to be dragged separately. I reached my destination by 1 P. M., found the village situated at the foot of a very precipitous Hill and entirely deserted. No sooner had I got my men into it than the enemy began hurling masses of stones down on us, but fortunately without doing any mischief. The ascent to Battoo commenced at once from this village, and the guide, a very intelligent man I picked up at Jynteeahpore, informed me the ascent was a very difficult and dangerous one and would occupy a full hour. I fully anticipated great opposition ascending it the following day. At this place there were the ruins of a house some forty yards from the river bank surrounded by high grass jungle, having six door-ways. I employed the coolies cutting down the grass fifty yards all round it, and barricaded five of the openings with stones breast high. I told off a Havildar's party to occupy this for the protection of the boats. In the evening it came on to rain and continued to come down in torrents till 3 A. M. of the 24th. I now became very anxious, thinking my communication by the river might be cut off, as I found the boats, if the river rose, would not be able to clear the rapids without much danger and loss, and neither of the guides or coolies I had with me knew the route back by the Hills. As soon as the rain ceased I examined the river, and finding no perceptible increase, and as there was promise of fine weather, I resolved going on to Battoo. A little after daybreak I got the men under arms and I commenced my march. It was fortunate I started so early, as I entirely took the Rebels by surprise. After ascending the Hill some 300 yards I found the road stockaded, as also the Hill on the right; here I found large stones six and seven lashed together, ready to be hurled on us. As we advanced, in every commanding position the same preparations were made for our reception. Just as the advance Guard gained the summit of the Hill, they saw a party of the enemy on the way down, evidently with the intention of manning the several stockades we had just passed. When within three miles of Battoo, and after making a descent, the

advanced Guard was fired on by the enemy. My men returned it, but it appeared without producing any good. Just as I ordered to cease fire one of the Sepoys saw a wounded man being dragged into a cave. I sent down a party to turn them out; five were at once killed and two men wounded in this encounter. I had three men wounded slightly, one by an arrow in the face, a second by a spear in the leg, and the third by a sword cut. This caused half an hour's delay. The jungle was so thick, it was almost impossible to see the enemy or ascertain their numbers. About half an hour after this affair we got into a clear country free from all jungle, with undulating Hills all round, Battoo standing on one somewhat higher than the rest. The Hills were covered with the enemy both in front and rear, and on both flanks I should think there could not have been less than eight hundred. When within a quarter of a mile of the village I halted the men for ten minutes. I then advanced with the advanced Guard and Light Company in extended order under Lieutenant Marshall, and detached Sub-Divisions to the right and left under Native Officers, keeping the remainder in reserve. As we advanced the enemy retreated, and by the time we had reached the village we found it entirely abandoned, the enemy having bolted down a precipice. The only stockade I could discover here was a stonework breast high all round the village, which was of great extent, and as I had not time to destroy it, I contented myself with making the Sepoys and Coolies fire the village, which in a few minutes was a mass of flames.

As it was now getting on towards the afternoon, I thought it advisable to return to Burghât, as I expected further opposition on my way back. On the advance to the village we killed one man and wounded two. On the way back I destroyed the village of Oomhichin. We were fired on from this on our advance in the morning. No opposition was offered on our return, and I reached Burghât by 4 P. M. Heavy rain again all night. On the morning of the 25th I found the river had risen considerably and determined at once to return to Jynteeahpore. As soon as I had embarked the men I burnt Burghât and crossed to the opposite side; disembarked the men and marched the men across country below the rapids, where I had ordered the boats to await my arrival. I burnt the villages of Vissaden and Khokanah, previously mentioned and returned to Nongtalong yesterday.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division.

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From Colonel H. F. Dunsford, Commanding Sylhet Field Force, to Captain E. K. O. Gilbert, Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 63, dated Camp Jowai, the 2nd April 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of Brigadier-General Showers, c. b., Commanding the Presidency Division, that nothing of importance has occurred in this District since the date of my last despatch.

I have sent out patrols to Munsow, Satongah, Jalong, and Battao. The Detachment at Munsow report that one or two shots are occasionally fired on them at night, but hitherto without effect. The patrol from Satongah returned on the 30th, having remained there one night. The village was stockaded but quite deserted. The Darogah held parley with the Rebels at a distance: they were invited to return to their homes, and pardon promised to all who had not been ringleaders on their giving up their arms. They declared themselves faithful subjects of the Queen, but I have not heard of any of them coming in: they may possibly have gone to Nongtalong and surrendered to Captain Robinson. The patrol to Jalong went out on the 31st under Command of Lieutenant Sadleir: this village had been formerly burnt by Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, but the stockade left standing: the stockade has now been burnt. I yesterday sent out another patrol to Satongah to endeavor to communicate with Major Longmore, Commanding 33rd Regiment Native Infantry, who should have reached that post on the 31st instant: this patrol was to go thence to Battao to meet the Detachment of the 33rd Regiment Native Infantry, under Lieutenant Walcott, from Jynteeahpore. Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson and Captain Robinson are now patroling about Ooksai, Pompadong, Nunbertai, Koodeng, and villages to the south. Many of the headmen of these villages have surrendered to Captain Robinson and are to be forwarded to this for examination by the Deputy Commissioner. Captain Robinson reports having taken eleven fire-arms of sorts, twenty-six swords, twenty-seven shields, 109

bows, and 260 arrows. Major Rowlatt has not yet returned from Shillong, but is expected to-day. The Darogah left with me states that a conference of the Rebels was held near Shamphong on the 30th, when they were most divided in their councils, nearly all the Jowai men who have been the prime movers in the rebellion having declared in favor of an immediate surrender and declined to join in any hostile demonstration; others were for making a last effort by an attack on the Out-post of Munsow, and that failing, to return to their occupations. I sent out a patrol to Munsow again to-day with supplies for the Detachment there. Unless the fields are sown within the next ten days there will be little prospect of a crop, and the people are reported to be already suffering from dearth of food. The small village of Jurooing, about six miles east of this, has been re-occupied and their arms are to be brought in to-day. They do not appear to have taken any active part in the rebellion. The general opinion is that all will settle down in the course of the next week and many of the ringleaders surrender. Ookiney Pattir, one of the leaders from this, is said to be about to sue for pardon.

P. S.—The Troops continue healthy, and supplies abundant. For the latter I am indebted to the Collector of Sylhet.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No 2, dated Camp Jowai, the 15th April 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report that I have arrived at this place on the 13th instant, and issued a Proclamation to the people, a copy of which is herewith forwarded for the information of Government.

Proclamation,—(the 14th April 1862.)

Brigadier-General Showers, c. b., Commanding the Presidency Division of the Army, has been appointed the Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills. He has assumed charge of his office and has this day established his Head-Quarters at Jowai Poonjee.

2. The Government have at the same time ordained that Act XI. of 1857 be brought into force in the Jynteeah Hills, and Brigadier-

General Showers hereby proclaims it to the people. The British Government had, in its clemency, withheld this measure in the hope that the people would have returned to their allegiance without obliging it to resort to such severity. The people have continued headstrong in their rebellion, and now this severe Law has been established and will take its course.

3. Brigadier-General Showers calls upon all those who are friends of order and loyal subjects of the British Government to assist him in restoring the peace of the District; at the same time he warns the inhabitants of the District that all who are found harbouring the Rebels, or supplying them with provisions, or in any way assisting them, will render themselves liable to the penalties of the Act.

4. The British Government has no wish to inflict the miseries of a severe Law upon the people; it would be better pleased to act for the peace, the happiness and the welfare of its subjects; and Brigadier-General Showers, guided by the spirit of his Government, urges the people to apply for pardon and to return to their allegiance.

5. If the people have any grievances to be redressed they should make them known as the Law directs, and they will be listented to, but no complaints will be received so long as they are in a state of insurrection.

6. Brigadier-General Showers has been informed that the mass of the people are loyally inclined, but that they are prevented from coming in by threats of certain evil-disposed men. Is any threat such men can hold out more dreadful than to behold wives and children perishing from want and the inclemency of the weather? Brigadier-General Showers exhorts the people to give up such men, or proclaim them to the Government, that they may be treated as the disturbers of the public peace and in conformity with the penalties of the Act.

From H. Bell, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 1185A., dated the 28th April 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2, dated the 15th instant, and in reply to inform you that the Lieutenant-Governor approves of the Proclamation which you have issued to the people of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

No. II.

From Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to E. H. Lushington, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 32, dated the 22nd March 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to submit, herewith, copy of a letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, No. 24 of the 14th instant, reporting the particulars of an inroad made by a party of 150 Jynteeah Cossyahs into the Nowgong District, and their retirement before a party of the Assaloo Militia under the orders of Mr. Extra Assistant Commissioner Ingels.

2. Mr. Ingels' intervention was prompt, energetic, and very fortunate, and I shall be glad if it be thought to deserve an expression of the approbation of Government.

3. But, judging from the bold front which the Jynteeah Cossyahs have, in several instances, shewn the regular Troops now employed against them, the retreat of a large party of them before eleven Policemen under a Civilian cannot be received as a measure of their behaviour on any future occasion, and it might be desirable to have a small Detachment of regular Sepoys to watch the country lying between the Borpanee and Kopili Rivers, as suggested by Lieutenant Sconce, if there were any regular Sepoys in Assam available for the duty; but, as I have before reported, the Head-Quarters of both the Local Regiments in this Province have been already drained to their last man, and I can take no other action on Lieutenant Sconce's representations than to submit them to Government in illustration of what I have before reported of the possibility of the Cossyahs carrying the War into the Nowgong District, and that we had no Force to oppose them in that direction.

From Lieutenant H. Sconce, Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, to Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 24, dated the 14th March 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to state that, when I was at Kheranee on the 12th instant, I met Mr. Extra Assistant Ingels, from whom I learnt that, on the 8th instant, finding that some armed Cossyahs were assembled near Kheranee, but on the opposite side of the Kopili,

he crossed over with fourteen men of the Police Militia. After proceeding eight miles Mr. Ingels came upon about 150 Cossyahs armed with bows and arrows, shields, large dâos, and a few guns. As soon as Mr. Ingels and his party appeared they were received with a flight of arrows. The Cossyahs were quickly driven away, but they left behind them sufficient of their Arms to equip forty odd men. These Arms I saw at Kheranee, but the particulars of the account I learnt verbally from Mr. Ingels, his written Report having crossed me on my way to Kheranee.

2. I have not yet received the Report, but I hasten to inform you of the event. The despatch will be forwarded on receipt.

3. Some days ago when I received a rumour of Kheranee being endangered, I immediately requested Mr. Ingels (who was in that neighbourhood) to go there with all his available Forces, and I also authorized him to cross to the western side of the Kopili if necessary, notwithstanding that his jurisdiction does not extend there. He, however, had not received my instructions when the above circumstances occurred, and therefore I consider he acted with great spirit and promptitude in taking upon himself the responsibility which he did. The result for the present is very satisfactory. No Cossyahs were in the vicinity, or even in this District, within forty-eight hours after Mr. Ingels' pursuit.

4. After what has happened it will be impossible to feel secure for a day unless some more efficient means of protection are provided. For the present Mr. Ingels will remain near the Kopili, on the east bank, with about forty Sepoys of the Police Militia, nine of these having been withdrawn from Nowgong, leaving me here with eleven men, instead of twenty, to guard the Treasury.

5. But Mr. Ingels cannot long remain at the north-western corner of his Sub-Division and leave the opposite side open to the Nâgas. I therefore hope that means may be found for placing fifty regular Sepoys at my disposal in and about Rongkang and Sofola Purbut Mouzahs. In this manner the country lying between the Borpanee and Kopili (which is most exposed to sudden attack) will be safe.

No. 932A.

Copy forwarded for the information of Brigadier-General Showers, Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

From J. P. H. WARD, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 935A., dated the 4th April 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 32, dated the 22nd ultimo, reporting on the prompt and energetic conduct of Extra Assistant Commissioner Mr. Ingels in repelling an inroad made by a party of Jynteeah Cossyahs into the Nowgong District, on the 8th idem; and in reply to request that you will be so good as to convey to Mr. Ingels an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's entire approbation of his promptitude on this occasion.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL P. HARRIS, Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 3rd April 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information.

From CAPTAIN R. G. CHAMBERS, Commanding Detachment, 43rd Regiment Light Infantry, in Nowgong District, to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 10, dated the 19th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding the Presidency Division, that, in accordance with the accompanying copy of a letter No. 29 of this date, from the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, requiring Military aid in punishing certain Cossyahs who are reported as committing depredations in his District, it is my intention to proceed to-morrow with a Detachment 43rd Regiment Light Infantry, strength as per accompanying present state, into the District.

I received intimation last evening from the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, which caused me to countermand my order for the men who came with me from the Tezpore Detachment to proceed this day to rejoin their Head-Quarters as reported in my letter of the 17th instant, No. 6.

From MAJOR HERBERT SCONCE, Deputy Commissioner of Assam, to CAPTAIN R. G. CHAMBERS, Commanding Detachment, 43rd Regiment Light Infantry, in Nowgong District,—(dated the 19th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that I have just received information that a party of armed Cossyahs (their strength not known) attacked and plundered a village named Bandole in North Cachar about

5 A. M. on the 17th instant. It is stated that, although two persons have been wounded by arrows, the Cossyahs had fire-arms which they used, but with what effect I cannot say.

2. It appears that the main body of the above-mentioned Cossyahs is, or was until recently, collected within the Cherra Poonjee District on the south bank of the River "Lairee," which flows into the Kopili, below the "Kopili Falls," which are about three marches south of Kheranee.

3. The Cossyahs thus threaten North Cachar, of which the Kopili is the western boundary and Nowgong, which is divided from the Cherra District by the Lairee.

4. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the Cossyahs should be driven out of North Cachar and prevented from crossing either the Lairee or Kopili. To accomplish this I shall require all the aid you can afford me.

5. I may mention that I have, including Non-Commissioned Officers, forty-two Police Militia, now at Kheranee, and they are ready to act in concert with whatever Force you may take.

6. In this emergency I think you could safely draw on your Rhodagoore Guard, which just now is not so important as it was a few months ago.

Present state of a Detachment, 43rd Regiment Native Infantry, proceeding on service into the Nowgong District.

Nowgong, 19*th March* 1862.

Detail.	Captain.	Lieutenant.	Subadar.	Jemadar.	Havildars.	Naicks.	Bugler.	Sepoys.	Remarks.
Present fit for duty ...	1	1	0	0	3	3	1	67	Lieutenant Wheler, Commanding Detachment, 43rd Light Infantry, proceeds with the Detachment.
Total ...	1	1	0	0	3	3	1	67	

(Signed) R. G. Chambers, *Captain,*
Commanding Detachment, 43rd Regiment Light Infantry,
Nowgong District.

Memorandum from Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 10, dated the 25th March 1862.)

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information in continuation of letter No. 33 of the 24th instant.

From Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, and Commissioner of Assam, to Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, Commanding Presidency Division, Sylhet,—(No. 18, dated the 25th March 1862.)

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of yesterday's date, No. 16, I have the honor to inform you that I have just received an account from the Mohurir of Thannah Jaggee of another irruption of Jynteeahs into Nillee Pergunnah, which is only two good marches from Gowhatty. I send you a translation of the Mohurir's statement. The cruel treatment of the Lalong woman by the Jynteeahs, though for itself matter of regret, is re-assuring as to the danger, up to the present time, of the Lalongs and Jynteeahs fraternizing, as I have reason to suppose they might do, and so cause great mischief. I beg that measures be at once taken to stop the descent of the Jynteeahs into the Plains on this side.

The Mohurir's report was brought me by a gentleman, a European Tea Planter, who had been obliged to abandon his plantation on the approach of the Cossyahs. I do not know what property or buildings he has got on it, but they will probably destroy all. The remedy will prove worse than the disease if, in quelling the disturbances in Jynteeah, we allow the insurgents to carry the flame of insurrection into Nillee and Raha. It is not much consolation to me that I foresaw that all this must happen and vainly tried to avert it by pointing out that all the Military operations should not have been undertaken from the Sylhet side, but writing on such points is of no avail. I wish you could have first seen the Jynteeah and Cossyah Hills from this side.

The Petition of Hu[illegible]e Mohuldar, Mohurir of Thannah Jaggee, posted at Nillee, to the Superintendent of Police, Assam,—(dated 23rd March 1862.)

I respectfully beg to state that last night at 2 o'clock about forty Cossyahs, armed with daos, arrows, and muskets, made an attack on the shop of one Ununtoram Beparee at Polasgooree, in Mouzah

Nillee, and wounded Tangonee, a Lalong woman, in the hand with a dao; the wound was about four fingers long, three fingers broad, and one finger deep; they also beat another Lalong woman named Powlaee with a musket, and, having broken open several chests belonging to Ununtoram, plundered all the property contained in them. I went to the spot this morning and enquired into what had occurred there, and in the course of my investigation I found nine iron and four bamboo bows, one Garrow cap of broad cloth, one cotton Garrow cloth, and I immediately sent all these things with my Report to the Thannah at Jaggee. Ununtoram's and his neighbour Kristonath Shome's property have also been plundered, and as they are all insensible at present, they cannot give the exact amount of the property plundered. There is no probability of the death of the woman by the wound.

From J. P. H. WARD, ESQ., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 966A., dated the 7th April 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement No. 10, dated the 25th ultimo, and its annexure, relative to the irruption of Jynteeahs into Nillee Pergunnah, about two marches from Gowhatty, and in reply to state that, in regard to the wants of Assam, you should communicate directly with General Showers.

No. 967A.

COPY forwarded for the information of the Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills with reference to Major Hopkinson's letter to his address No. 18, dated the 25th ultimo.

No. 968A.

COPY of this letter, and of the endorsement and annexures to which it replies, forwarded for the information of the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Military Department.

From Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 33, dated the 24th March 1862.)

Sir,

In continuation of my letter, to your address, No. 32 of the 22nd instant, I have the honor to submit, herewith, copy of a letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, reporting another descent by the Jynteeah insurgents into Sub-Division, North Cachar, Nowgong District.

2. I regret that my suggestions were not approved of in regard to the despatch of a portion of the Force destined for service in the Jynteeah Hills viâ the Brahmapootra to operate if they were wanted from the Gowhatty side, instead of posting up Detachment after Detachment to Sylhet.

3. I have sent a copy of Lieutenant Sconce's Despatch to Brigadier General Showers, Commanding the Division, who, I hear from my Extra Assistant at Cherra Poonjee, has arrived in Sylhet. It is another disappointment to me that the Brigadier-General did not come, in the first instance, to Gowhatty. I have been informed that Brigadier-General Showers has been deputed by Government to report on the defences of the Province, and I think it would have both promoted the views of Government, and materially assisted the General, had he come here first to confer with me as the chief Civil and Political Officer in the Province, and on a question in which in that capacity I have the greatest interest, and which I have now for some months been carefully studying. I think that if the Brigadier-General had been placed in unreserved personal communication with me, that I might have afforded him information, which he could hardly obtain in any other way, and which would have proved of service to him both in regard to the matter of the Frontier defences generally, and to the speedy settlement of the Jynteeah difficulty.

From Lieutenant Herbert Sconce, Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong, Assam, to Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 30, dated the 19th March 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to state that I have just received hasty information from Mr. Ingels that Bandah, in North Cachar, had been

attacked on the 17th instant, at 5 A. M., by some armed Cossyahs, the village burnt and plundered, and a man and a woman wounded by arrows. The former is named Baheeram, who has joined Mr. Ingels at Kheranee. The accompanying copy of letter No. 29 of this date, which I have addressed to Captain Chambers, Commanding in Nowgong, will shew you all I know and the measures I propose taking.

2. To-morrow morning, at 3 A. M., Captain Chambers will start for Kheranee with a Detachment of sixty-eight men. I myself am going to the same place, but I shall start at once.

3. It is most fortunate that I have just been able to stop Captain Chambers, who was this very day going to leave Nowgong for Tezpore with a Detachment of eighteen Sepoys. By taking these men, and some from the Station, and withdrawing a portion of the Phooloogooric Guard, the Force now available will amount to sixty-eight men.

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 1117A., dated the 21st April 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 33, dated the 24th ultimo, reporting another descent of a party of the Jynteeah Cossyahs into North Cachar, and expressing your regret that the 33rd Regiment Native Infantry was not sent to Assam, as recommended by you, and that General Showers did not pass by Gowhatty in visiting the Jynteeah Hills.

2. In reply I am desired to observe that when the 33rd Regiment was first placed at the disposal of this Government for service in the North-Eastern Frontier the Lieutenant-Governor, at the request of the Government of India, selected Sylhet as the most suitable place to which the Regiment should proceed, as it was the nearest and most accessible point to the scene of the disturbances in the Cossyah Hills. Brigadier-General Showers was informed of this, and the necessary arrangements made accordingly.

3. Subsequently, when the Lieutenant-Governor took it under his consideration to determine the place to which the Regiment should ultimately proceed after the suppression of the Cossyah disturbances, your opinion was requested on the subject. In answering this reference you recommended the immediate despatch of the Regiment to Tezpore instead of to Sylhet.

4. But as Brigadier-General Showers had, in the meanwhile, been deputed by the Government of India to consider the question of the Military defences of the Eastern Frontier, you were informed, in reply, in my letter No. 733A., dated the 22nd ultimo, that it would be advisable to be guided by General Showers, who was then on the spot, and in a better position to judge on the point than any other person. You will thus observe that you were mistaken in stating in your letter, now under reference, that your recommendation regarding the station of the 33rd Regiment was disapproved.

5. Adverting to your other complaint that Brigadier-General Showers did not, in the first instance, go to Gowhatty, I am desired to observe that this was a matter in which it would appear that the Brigadier-General was left to follow his own judgment; and as the Jynteeah Hills were the actual scene of disturbances the Lieutenant-Governor has no doubt that this able and experienced Officer, in going to Sylhet, and so to the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, chose that course which was, on the whole, the most advisable.

Memorandum from MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No, 15, dated the 14th April 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for information. A report has been made to Brigadier-General Showers.

From LIEUTENANT HERBERT SCONCE, Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, Assam, to MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 42, dated the 9th April 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that I have received intimation from Mr. Extra Assistant Commissioner Ingels that the Meekir villages of Oompoo and Oongur, on the west bank of the Kopili (and near the Falls), are said to have been plundered by the Rebel Cossyahs on or about the 30th ultimo.

2. The above has been communicated to Captain Chambers, Commanding the Detachment on the banks of the Kopili, and as Mr. Ingels is in the neighbourhood, I have requested him to favor me with the details of the case as soon as possible.

No. III.

Extract from a letter from Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 12, dated the 13th February 1862.)

Sir,

I have not yet obtained an Official Report of the causes of the disturbance from Major Rowlatt, but in a communication, which I may, perhaps, treat as demi-official, he writes as follows:—

"You ask me the cause of the outbreak—it is simply that the evil disposed wish to throw off their allegiance to our Government; they wish to have to pay no taxes; they don't like any control being exercised over them, and therefore want to get rid of both the Thannah and Military Guard; they, in a word, wish to be entirely independent, so that they may do just as they like; they prefer the savage to the civilized state—this, however, only applies to those who have joined in this rebellion, who don't, I should say, exceed 500 out of a male adult population of 12 to 15,000—they are composed of all the bad characters—thieves, robbers, gamblers, drunkards, and blackguards of all descriptions, who, if they get the upper-hand, would tyrannize over and oppress all the quiet-going respectable people.

"The village form of Government is purely Republican, and in its results produces just the same effect as we see to be the case in America: the noisy, forward, low, and unscrupulous have it nearly all their own way, and keep the quiet and respectable people in such terror that they are afraid to offer any opposition.

"The affair is completely local, so we need not, I think, trouble ourselves with any one except the Rebels now in the field. I am assured by the Magistrate of Sylhet that the Jynteeah Rajah has nothing to do with any parties up here, but I still think he would be far better at Dacca than at Sylhet."

4. This is not a complete explanation, but it will be remembered that the cause of the previous rebellion in Jynteeah the year before last was involved in very great obscurity; and what Mr. David Scott said of the Cossyahs thirty years ago is still true of their Jynteeah brethren

to this day "that the caprice and inconsistency of these mountaineers is such as to baffle all anticipation of their proceedings in any particular case, their actions appearing to proceed from the impulse of the moment, with little or no consideration either of their own interest, or of the probability of their being able to do any serious damage to those whom they wish to injure." I could compile a long list of causes which might have had their effect in precipitating the present outbreak, but my impressions should be better verified than they are yet before they find place in an official document. The outbreak must be first quelled, and then I hope to investigate its origin and submit suggestions for preventing anything of the kind happening again. I regret to find that it should have occasioned so much apprehension as it appears to have done in Calcutta, and which may be partly attributable to a confusion regarding its nature and locality; thus a Telegram communicated by the Government to the Press is headed "Outbreak at Cherra Poonjee"; the villages, the scene of the disturbances, being nearer Assam and from fifty to eighty miles distant from Cherra Poonjee, and still further from Sylhet, which is also said to be menaced.

5. In compliance with the earnest requisition of Major Rowlatt, I have requested the Officer Commanding the Regiment here to despatch a Company to Major Rowlatt's assistance: this will leave Gowhatty with little else than recruits in it.

From E. H. Lushington, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 643A., dated the 10th March 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 12, dated the 13th ultimo, forwarding Major Rowlatt's demi-official note in explanation of the causes of the outbreak in the Cossyah Hills; of No. 14, dated the 15th idem, submitting, in continuation of former letters, a further account of Major Rowlatt's operations against the Rebels, and expressing your disappointment at the non-arrival of the Force expected by you; and of No. 4 of the 21st ultimo, enclosing a copy of letter from Major Rowlatt, dated 15th February, stating that,

until additional Troops had arrived, he could not hold out much hopes of suppressing the rebellion.

2. In reply I am desired by the Lieutenant-Governor to refer you to my separate letter of this date, No. 644A., communicating the result of the correspondence with the Government of India on the subject of increasing the Military Force in the Eastern Frontier.

3. You have already been informed by my letter No. 392, dated the 14th ultimo, that, since the occurrence of the Cossyah outbreak, two Native Regiments have been ordered to the eastward.

4. Your letter, No. 12 of the 13th, contains the first report received that gives any idea of the character of the rising as at present apparent. The explanation, however, is so very meagre as to be almost undeserving of the name. The Lieutenant-Governor would have supposed, notwithstanding the alleged difficulty described in your 4th paragraph of accounting for the intentions of the Cossyahs, that Major Rowlatt would have been able to have found out some more important particulars than those now under notice. Major Rowlatt, the Lieutenant-Governor would observe, at the time of writing this explanation, had been several days engaged in quelling the insurrection: he had also got so far as to ascertain that it was confined to a thirtieth part of the whole population, and yet it would appear that he was unable to state anything more definite as to the grievances of this small portion of the inhabitants than that they wanted to throw off all power and to become independent.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the urgent call of the Government for full information as to the cause of this outbreak, and the enlarged opportunity of collecting information which has since been afforded to Major Rowlatt by a prolonged detention in the disaffected part of the country, will combine to call forth from him a comprehensive account of the origin of the whole affair without further delay.

Memorandum from R. Abercrombie, Esq., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 70, dated the 7th March 1862.)

Copy of the following letter is forwarded for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

From MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to R. ABERCROMBIE, ESQ., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, —(No. 150, dated the 27th February 1862.)

SIR,

WITH reference to your letter No. 207, dated the 20th instant, just received, and the Government Telegram of the same date, enquiring as to the cause of the insurrection, I request you will do me the favor of communicating to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor the following reply:—

None of the Rebels have yet come in or been apprehended; their reasons for rebelling cannot, therefore, be ascertained; but it is generally reported that the imposition of the Income Tax is the chief cause, besides which they object to any control being exercised over them. A full report will be made as soon as the cause of the rising can be correctly ascertained.

From J. P. H. WARD, ESQ., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 679A., dated the 18th March 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to forward to you the annexed copy of a letter, dated the 27th ultimo, from the Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the address of the Officiating Commissioner of Dacca, and to state that the Lieutenant-Governor cannot but feel it to be very unsatisfactory that Major Rowlatt, up to so late a date, has ascertained nothing reliable regarding the object of the insurrection, and has still omitted to report anything regarding its character or extent.

2. Major Rowlatt says that it is generally reported that the imposition of the Income Tax is the chief cause. But he does not say a word as to what has actually been done in the matter of the imposition of the Income Tax which could have had such consequences. It seems probable that very few of the people inhabiting the Jynteeah Hills can have been liable to Income Tax.

3. At this distance any detailed orders would be more likely to do harm than good. The Government must trust entirely to you. But you must understand that you are yourself expected to take any action that may be necessary in the Civil Department for expediting the

suppression of this insurrection, and for obtaining full information of its character and purpose. With this object the Lieutenant-Governor authorizes you to make any new arrangements for the Civil Administration of the District in question that you may think expedient.

No. 680A.

COPY of the above, and of the letter therein referred to, forwarded for the information of the Government of India in the Home Department.

From W. GREY, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 1100, dated the 28th February 1862.)

SIR,

WITH reference to Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson's Reports, dated the 9th and the 11th instant, copies of which, it is believed, have been furnished to the Government of Bengal, I am desired by the Governor General in Council to enquire whether the Civil Officer, Major Rowlatt, who has been present with Colonel Richardson during his operations, has given, or is able to give, any explanation of the resistance which has been so perseveringly offered to authority in the District under his charge.

From J. P. H. WARD, ESQ., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 737A., dated the 22nd March 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1100, dated the 28th ultimo, enquiring whether Major Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, has given, or is able to give, any explanation of the resistance which has been so perseveringly offered to authority in the District under his charge, and in reply to refer to the endorsement from this Office No. 680A., dated the 18th instant, which shews that up to this time Major Rowlatt has not obtained grounds for any reliable opinion on the subject, the reason assigned for this want of certain information being that none of the insurgents have as yet been apprehended.

From Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 20, dated the 28th February 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, to my address, No. 392A. of the 14th instant, acknowledging the Reports, cited in the margin, in connection with the disturbances in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, but mentioning that a Report from Major Rowlatt, posted by me on the 26th ultimo, and referred to in my letter of the 31st ultimo, had apparently miscarried. It may have since come to hand however; I now send a copy, and I wish that the information it contains had been of a more important character.

No. 8, dated 31st ultimo.
" 2, " 3rd instant.

2. The circumstances attending the breaking out of this insurrection are certainly very unaccountable. Major Rowlatt had reported to me, and I had also represented to Government, that the state of public feeling in Jynteeah was unsatisfactory. In the beginning of January Major Rowlatt received warnings of a rising being intended, which he communicated to me, at the same time announcing his intention of proceeding to Jowai, the presumed focus of insurrection, to nip the conspiracy in the bud. On the 18th January, however, I got a note from him, telling me that "matters appeared to be pretty quiet in the Jynteeah direction," but that he was still going to Jowai, and was then about to set out. He went, satisfied himself that all was well, started to return to his Head-Quarters again, but, while on his first march, received the news that the country was up, that the Thannah at Jowai had been burnt to the ground, and the Guard there besieged.

3. Major Rowlatt is an Officer of much experience; he acquired considerable credit from Government for the way in which he brought the Jynteeah outbreak in 1860 to a close and settled the country. He has for months been living away from any Station, all by himself, among the Cossyahs not far from Jowai; he is kind to these mountaineers, and is understood to be popular among them; yet, nevertheless, active rebellion breaks out at the very moment when, having made careful local enquiries, he had satisfied himself that, if there had been mischief brewing, it had blown over.

4. A people which can so well hide their designs may equally well preserve the secret of their motives, but it is almost a reasonable conclusion that there was neither motive nor plot. I have already quoted Mr. Scott on the extraordinary and unlooked for impulses to which these people at times surrender themselves.

5. I certainly would not have introduced such a Tax as the Income Tax among the Jynteeah people; but for that matter I would not have recommended its introduction in Assam, and I have no proof that the Jynteeah people have been displeased at its imposition.

6. The appointment of Bengallee Officials over the people might be a cause of mischief, but I do not think that there were any Bengallees in employ in Jynteeah, when the disturbances broke out, except a Burkundauze or two at the Thannah. The Darogah was a Cossyah.

7. Major Rowlatt had not heard of any collision between the Police and any of the Doloyes: the Jalong people, it is said, did not like the Darogah going up to their village at the time of their Poojah, and say that his doing so interfered with their proceedings, which, as he went because he heard that they had been collecting a large number of fire-arms, was very likely the case. There is a story also that the Jowai people were offended at being prevented from burning their dead in a way that made them a nuisance to their neighbours, who complained against them.

8. If the outbreak had any real specific cause I hope it will not be long before I shall be in a position to communicate it to the Government. Meanwhile it may be well to keep the following facts in mind.

9. That the Jynteeah people have ever been a rebellious and stiff-necked generation.

10. In the earliest notice I have seen of the Jynteeah Cossyahs their Rajah is spoken of as, to a considerable degree, under the control of the chief people in the interior, who were "of a very independent and rather turbulent character."

11. The offering up human sacrifices is commonly a characteristic of the most unreclaimable savages, of those who are seldom brought within the pale of civilization except by the strong hand: it was the barbarous immolation of three of our subjects at the shrine of Kali by Chutter Sing, the Rajah of Goba, by order of the present Ex-Rajah of

Jynteeah, that led to the seizure of the country, and I believe that, at the time of the disturbances at Phoolgooree last October, a Dâk runner was sacrificed in the same way by the same people.

12. For years after the British Government had thus come into possession of Jynteeah we left the people to govern themselves through their Doloyes after their own fashion, and the struggle for power among these Doloyes kept the country in a constant turmoil, and produced ill blood among all classes.

13. The Government at the same time negatived every suggestion for the imposition of any Tax of any kind upon them.

14. This state of affairs continued up to the period of Mr. Allen's visit in 1858. He proposed that the Jynteeah mountaineers should be required to contribute something in acknowledgment of the supremacy of Government, and recommended a House Tax, but at the same time he was careful to make it part of his scheme that a European Officer should be stationed at Jowai.

15. The Government agreed to the imposition of the House Tax, but negatived the appointment of the European Officer.

16. The result of the House Tax was the Jynteeah rebellion of 1860; fortunately Troops were at hand; four Detachments aggregating 500 men immediately took the field, tranquillity was restored, and the Tax came into full operation.

17. Although the Jynteeah people had thus shewn that they would submit to even nominal taxation only at the point of the bayonet, the Income Tax was introduced among them in 1861, and the Troops which had so recently been employed in coercing them were at the same time reduced, and numbers of disbanded Soldiers wandering through the country suggested to the disaffected that, though we might raise our demands, we had no longer the same power to enforce them.*

* In place of 500 men, as on the first occasion, Colonel Richardson, at the outset of the present disturbance, could only bring some forty-seven Bayonets into the field.

18. Later in the year accounts reached the Hills of the Duty to be imposed on "Arts, Trades, and Dealings," and towards its close the Jynteeah people heard how their brethren in the Plains of Roha had resisted an attempt to tax their pan and tobacco.

19. A people who have been neither left to their own guidance, nor yet fairly brought under ours; upon whom our yoke has pressed with just sufficient force to gall, but not to break into order; who have been denied the boon of having our rule represented among them by an English Officer, and of all our institutions who have known only our system of Police as illustrated by a Police Thannah on the Bengal model, and our latest experiments in the difficult art of taxation; who, just after they have been taught the lesson that they could only be compelled to pay an obnoxious Tax by the application of Military force, are staightway further taxed, the means of compulsion being at the same time withdrawn, when such a people rise in rebellion, I would venture to suggest that it may not be very difficult to explain its origin and object without searching after recondite causes.

20. I neither wish to exaggerate facts, nor to array them unfairly, nor to force an inference from them that may discredit the policy which the Government has thought fit to pursue in past years towards the Jynteeah District. Taking their acts separately, excellent reason will always be found for the course pursued, and that the result in the aggregate would be so unfortunate could scarcely have been predicted.

Paragraph 260.—Report on the Administration of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hill Territory.

Paragraph 258.

21. Mr. W. J. Allen's approval of the location of a Police Station at Jowai seems judicious when we find that he contemplated the appointment of a European Officer to this part of Assam; but when the European Officer was refused, and it was decided that the people should have as much as possible of the management of their own affairs in their own hands,* to retain a Police which was removed from anything like efficient supervision was a course likely to lead to irritation and mischief.

* No. 352, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Agent to the Governor General, dated 31st August 1860.

22. Again, if our Civil and Criminal Courts were so bad that the less that was done at them the better, it was an obvious remedy that the people should be left to manage their ordinary affairs by themselves; it remained for experience to shew that this experiment would

result in our practically ceasing to be represented among them at all except by the Policeman, or to have any relations with them except through the tax-gatherer. The system of paternal Government had fallen into disgrace, though none other has ever succeeded with barbarous tribes.

23. It is probable that neither Mr. Wilson, nor any other Member of the Government, would have approved of the introduction of the Income Tax into the Jynteeah District if the point could have been directly pressed upon his attention. But the Commissioner would be aware that the application of the Tax to Jynteeah was hardly less expedient than to Assam generally, and the Government could not have admitted the inapplicability of the Tax to Assam.

24. Then, lastly, as to the reduction of the Troops in Assam, it was unfortunate that it should have been simultaneous with the addition of a new Tax on a people who had just refused to pay any Tax except on compulsion, but it was part of an imperial scheme of reduction of the Military Forces throughout India, against which, probably, many other Local Authorities remonstrated so far as it concerned them, while only the event could make it apparent that the remonstrances of this Office or of the Military Authorities in Assam were better founded than those addressed from elsewhere.

25. While, therefore, I greatly deplore the course events have taken in Jynteeah, I think it was certainly beyond the control of the Local Authorities, and hardly within that of the Government. It was not possible that they should foresee what effect their various measures would have upon an obscure District of Assam. But whatever may be said of what has happened, I should wish to learn from it what our future management should be.

26. Such a project as evacuating the Jynteeah Hill Territory, or making its inhabitants as independent of us as the Cossyahs Proper are, cannot now be thought of; and I trust that it will be admitted that the experiment which has been tried of leaving them almost as much to their own devices as if they were independent has signally failed. My first proposition is, therefore, that an Assistant Commissioner, a Covenanted Officer, be appointed to Jynteeah and posted at Nurteng. He should receive, on first appointment, a salary of

Rupees 400 a month, to be increased to Rupees 500, or even 550 on passing an examination in the Jynteeah dialect, and he would be immediately subordinate to the Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Cossyah Hills.

27. The next point to which I attach most importance is the immediate opening up of the Jynteeah up-lands by roads, and I again, as I have already done several times before, advocate the construction of the two roads uniting at Shillong, and leading one from Gowhatty, and the other from near Nuncklow (not the Nuncklow of the Cossyah Hills, but Nuncklow in the Nowgong District) on the Grand Trunk Road between Gowhatty and Nowgong âiv Ainseng, Oonbeng, Bor Pani to Mortiung, only four marches. We must have roads; we can do nothing; we can set nothing properly going without them; we cannot have proper supervision; we cannot introduce Police; we cannot efficiently administer justice even without roads. All Military and Political administrations urge the construction of roads upon us. We shall never have real possession of the country until we have roads. In the absence of roads the strength of a barbarian enemy is increased tenfold, and commerce, the great civilizer, cannot find him out. Education, I mean education of the Schools, book learning, is almost thrown away where intercourse cannot take place. Of late years the Public Press has been eloquent on the theme of roads for India; the Government of Bengal have been unceasing in their efforts to improve communications throughout the Presidency; the Supreme Government have everywhere given all the encouragement and support within their power to such undertakings. Her Majesty's Government notice every project for a road to express their interest in it, and their desire that it should be carried out. But roads in India, in the canal covered country of Bengal, or across the broad Plains of the Upper Provinces, are, as compared with roads in the interior of Assam, what clothing in Calcutta is to clothing in Edinburgh. Notwithstanding all that has been said against the very objectionable system of impressing coolies, we have no choice, in the absence of roads, but to resort to it, as we are now doing in the operations going on in Jynteeah. I do not hesitate to say that it is the worst feature in the campaign that we must oppress our friends to vex our enemies. It is enough to turn true men into Rebels. When a wavering village has to choose between stand-

ing fast and having its men seized and converted into beasts of burden, or running away into the jungle, can we wonder if the latter course is preferred.

28. *Assessment.*—It has been held in times past that the cultivator in the Jynteeah District had no personal or hereditary right in the soil, but that all connected with it were summarily removable at the will of the Rajah. It has been ascertained, however, beyond dispute, that whatever the cultivator's rights were, he was liable to land assessment at the discretion of the Government, and that nobody else had any rights in the land. The Doloyes and other headmen were removable at pleasure, and where they held lands held them only in virtue of their office. Upon this state of facts I would recommend the introduction of the very simple system of assessment in force in British Burmah, and particularly in its adaptation to the Tavoy Karens, a people whose circumstances, position, and social condition are very much what those of the Jynteeah people are. Major Rowlatt has written, urging me to propose a Land Tax in Jynteeah, and a proposition of his for a Poll Tax, in lieu of the existing House Tax, was lately before the Government. Now, a Poll Tax and a Land Tax are the essential or substantive features of the Burmese system. I would assess all lands in cultivation, or in respect to which a private proprietary right was asserted, at one Rupee an acre; and I would impose a Poll Tax of one Rupee a head on every male between the ages of sixteen and sixty. I would appoint Doloyes to be the headmen of Pergunnahs and villages, as the Thoogrees and Rwa-goungs are in British Burmah, and I would suspend the operation of the Income Tax. It is a Tax utterly unsuited to such a people.

29. There are scarcely any of the people in the Hills really with us; even those who have not actually taken up arms have been restrained by fear only from doing so, and so far as they dare shew everywhere a disposition, according to Major Rowlatt's accounts, to aid the insurgents. We may do what we will, offer what terms we like, we have a foe to deal with, who is evidently determined to examine no concession, but to protract the contest as long as possible, and to surrender only at discretion. We, therefore, on our side are free to consider what conditions it will be most suitable to impose.

30. In regard to the administration of justice I would have the Assistant follow the Civil and Criminal Codes of Procedure and the

Penal Code. He can have nothing safer or simpler to guide him. The Civil Code provides ample machinery for the decision of suits by arbitration, and the people should be induced to avail themselves largely of this mode of disposal of litigation. The Assistant would have an interpreter, and his proceedings should all be in the English language, as in the Pegu and Tenasserim Courts, the Cossyah not being a written language. There must be no Bengallee writing introduced, and no references to Sylhet, as, in regard to part of Jynteeah, is, I believe, now the case. Appeals should be brought either before the Governor General's Agent, or the Assam Judicial Commissioner. The Government have directed that the Head-Quarters of the Commissioner and Governor General's Agent be changed, and if they are moved to Shillong, the Jynteeah people will not have far to go; but even if they had to come to Gowhatty, they would be better off than nine-tenths of the inhabitants of Assam, who have much further to come, and in either case principals come only by their own choice.

31. *Police.*—I am in doubt on this head, but I will join with Major Rowlatt in recommending that, as the Rebels will probably soon be broken up into small parties, an addition of two Havildars and fifty Khasseeah Sepoys should be made to the present Force, which consists of one Jemadar at Rupees 26-2, one Havildar at Rupees 12-8, and twenty Sepoys at Rupees 7. At Major Rowlatt's urgent request, and pending the receipt of the orders of Government, I have sanctioned his entertaining this additional Police, as the apprehension of the Rebel leaders can only be effected through their agency, and the sooner they are apprehended the sooner will the rebellion be suppressed. I trust that the Government will approve of my having taken this step on the grounds that immediate action was necessary. I will submit the usual Tabular Statement of the increase so soon as I have information from Major Rowlatt that he has actually effected it. The charge must necessarily be regarded as an extraordinary one, not provided for in any way in the Budget, as the Jynteeah insurrection could not be anticipated in that document.

32. In my letter, No. 23 of the 4th instant, I have already reported on the amount of Military Force required for the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

From J. P. H. Ward, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 738A., dated the 22nd March 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 20 of the 28th ultimo, and in reply to state that, under the circumstances represented in paragraph 30 thereof, the Lieutenant-Governor approves of your having authorized Major Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to entertain an additional Police Force,* which has already been sanctioned by Government Orders No. 676A., dated the 15th instant.

* 2 Havildars, at Rs. 12-8 each per month ...	Rs. 25
50 Cossyah Sepoys, at Rs. 7 each per month ...	„ 350
Total ...	Rs. 375

2. With regard to your 26th paragraph you are authorized to select an Officer and send him as, at least, a temporary arrangement, to be an Assistant in the Jynteeah Hills under the Deputy Commissioner.

3. You will be good enough to submit a full explanation of all that has been done in these Hills in the matter of levying the Income Tax from them.

From Major Henry Hopkinson, Commissioner, and Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 26, dated the 10th March 1862.)

Sir,

Some time ago being anxious to know by what classes the Income Tax was paid in Assam, I called upon the Deputy Commissioners to furnish me lists shewing the names, castes, and professions of all the persons who had been assessed. In due course of time I received the lists of each District, that for the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hill District among the rest. I found that the number who had been called upon to contribute to the Tax there was larger than I expected, and I then called for a further report as to where all the Tax-payers lived. This return I have only, after considerable delay and with some difficulty, now obtained, the disturbances that have supervened being probably the cause; but I find by it that, out of a total assessment of 360 persons, 323 were Jynteeah people, and of these 323 no less than sixty-eight belonged to Jowai, the place at which the insurrection commenced, and which, with Nurteng, has always led public opinion in Jynteeah.

2. There were 18 Hindoos, 15 Europeans, 2 Mahomedans, and 325 Cossyahs assessed. I can trace only two of the latter to Cherra Poonjee; and the 325 were assessed in Rupees 1,316, which would be at the rate of 4 Rupees a head upon all but two or three; or, in other words, the Income Tax in Jynteeah must have taken the shape, practically, of a Capitation Tax of 4 Rupees a head levied upon the principal men, and this also, I may observe parenthetically, is just what it has done in Kamroop.

3. Now in the situation of the Jynteeah people, such as I have explained it in recent correspondence, what result should we *à priori* have been led to expect from taking 300 of the principal men of the country and taxing them each 4 Rupees a head? What are the laws of popular demonstrations, and further of revolts and rebellions? Almost always we find that they are originated by a minority which, in most communities, leads where the mass follows, and has the skill to persuade the latter that it is oppressed and endangered by any measure which is obnoxious to, and often perhaps only affects, the former.

4. Thus in England, even where the people are so intelligent, and education and political knowledge so diffused, if there arose disturbances about the payment of Church rates, what should we expect to find but that a large number of the peace-breakers were persons who never had paid any rates at all?

5. So of the two following measures, to tax a Native village of fifty houses, eight annas a house, and exempt the three principal house-holders charged with, and receiving a commission on, the collection of the tax, or to tax the three principal house-holders 4 Rupees each and exempt the rest; is there any doubt that this latter course would provoke the more opposition? The first case is what they did in Burmah, and there was never a word of objection to the Capitation Tax there. Nay, I observe that the Commissioner of Tenasserim has actually proposed to get rid of the Income Tax in that Province,* and make it up by enhancing the Capitation Tax paid by the poorer portion of the community twenty five per cent.

* Report on the administration of the Tenasserim and Martaban Provinces for 1860-61, paragraph 85.

6. It seems to me that nothing more likely could have happened than that the Dolloyes, and Pathors, and Soundeas, who had held almost

uncontrolled sway over Jynteeah for so long, and had been accustomed only to levy contributions, not to pay them, should have rebelled against the imposition of the Income Tax, and have succeeded in enlisting the sympathies of the people.

7. We spoiled the Jynteeah people, taught them to consider themselves a privileged and peculiar race, and made a very grave mistake when in 1835 we separated their District from the rest of Assam and put it under the charge of the Commandant of the Sylhet Light Infantry; and, when the anomaly was put an end to in 1853, a great deal of mischief had been done. The political interest of the Cossyah Hills Proper might not have suffered possibly from being confided to a Military Officer having his own Military duties to perform; but Jynteeah was a purely Civil administrative charge, and, had it been so treated, would, by this time, have been undistinguishable from the rest of Assam; certainly Jowai, Nurteng, and all its northern water-shed, which, as I have explained before, is inseparable from Nowgong. It would have been far more reasonable to have put Nowgong itself, or the Gowhatty District, under charge of the Officer Commanding the Regiment at Gowhatty, or Luckimpore under the Officer Commanding at Debrooghur, than Jynteeah under the orders of the Commandant of the Sylhet Light Infantry: it was an abominably bad arrangement, and we are now experiencing its bitter fruit.

From J. P. H. Ward, Esq., Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 793A., dated the 26th March 1862.)

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 26 of the 10th instant, reporting that you have made enquiries as to the Classes by whom Income Tax is paid in Assam, I am directed to draw your particular attention to the concluding paragraph of my letter No. 738A., dated the 22nd instant, and to request that you will be good enough to take care that the report therein called for contains a special report of the mode of application of this Tax to the Jynteeah Territory.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor looks for a full explanation from the Local Officers as to why no representation was made on the subject of

this Tax in regard to this Territory, particularly as taxation generally now appears, according to Major Rowlatt's own representation, to have been the cause of the present disturbances.

From MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 37, dated the 1st April 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, to my address, No. 738A. of the 22nd ultimo.

2. In reply to the 2nd paragraph of your letter, I have the honor to report that I have directed Lieutenant Andrew, Assistant Commissioner at Gowalparah, to proceed and act as an Assistant in the Jynteeah Hills under the Deputy Commissioner. I consider Lieutenant Andrew an Officer peculiarly fitted for the post.

3. In regard to the orders contained in the 3rd paragraph of your letter, I beg to submit copy of a letter* written by me to Major Rowlatt, and of his answer thereto, respecting the manner in which the Income Tax was introduced into Jynteeah. Major Rowlatt is not so copious in the information he affords as might be expected; but now that the fighting, in which he has had to be in constant attendance with the Troops, is over, he will be able to address himself more exclusively to the investigation of the causes of the late outbreak.

* No. 5, dated 18th March 1862.

From MAJOR HENRY HOPKINSON, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to Major E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, —(No. 5, dated the 18th March 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to request that you will furnish me immediately with an account of the manner in which the Income Tax was introduced into the Jynteeah Hills, and of the agency by which it was collected, stating the names of the Agents employed, and what description of persons they were, also the principle on which the assessment was made? I observe that almost all the Tax-payers were required to

pay 4 Rupees a head, as if the Tax had been a Capitation Tax. Lastly, what measures were taken to make the people understand the nature of the Tax, and what difficulty or objection was made, if any, to paying it?

2. The mode of assessment might have suggested the idea that it was a Tax imposed on the headmen preliminarily to taxing the great body of the people under the Arts, Trades, and Dealings Tax. Was there any such belief abroad, and to what extent were the people acquainted with the projected duty on Arts, Trades, and Dealings, and had they heard anything of the Pan and Tobacco Tax? Is any connexion traceable between the Nowgong outbreak in October last, and the present disturbances in the Jynteeah Hills? Have any persons known to have been concerned in the Nowgong outbreak sought refuge in the Jynteeah villages? Has the presence of any emissaries stirring up sedition among the people from any quarter been suspected?

From Major E. A. Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to Major Henry Hopkinson, Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 85, dated the 25th March 1862.)

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 5 of the 18th instant, I have the honor to state that the Income Tax in the Jynteeah Hills was introduced merely through the medium of the Doloyes of the several jurisdictions into which this portion of the Hills is divided. In the first instance they were each called upon to furnish lists of the persons in their Circles whom they considered assessable; and, after the form of issuing the prescribed notices had been gone through, the Tax was collected by the Doloyes and paid by them into the Treasury.

2. As not a single individual amongst the Jynteeah Cossyahs can read or write, it was, of course, out of the question to expect them to fill up the Schedules, and, as none keep any accounts of their dealings, it was impossible to discover their actual incomes. It was therefore assumed that none were assessable above the lowest rate, 4 Rupees per annum, which, as there are no very wealthy people amongst them, is probably the highest rate at which any could be assessed, even were it possible to ascertain their incomes correctly.

3. The whole of the Tax was collected for last year without a murmur or complaint against the assessment having been made, and no alterations were made in the assessment for the present year.

4. With reference to the 2nd paragraph of your letter, I beg to state I am not aware whether the people were generally expecting the introduction of further taxation in the shape of a Tax on Arts, Trades, and Dealings, and on Pan and Tobacco; but, as the introduction of these Taxes doubtless formed the subject of frequent conversations amongst the Natives in general, I have little doubt but that the people of the Jynteeah Hills, who frequently visit Cherra Poonjee, must have heard that such was in contemplation, and I have heard of late that the leaders of the rebellion have induced many to join in it by representing that taxation of their lands, &c., would be enforced and all of them ruined if they did not succeed in driving us out of their country.

5. In reply to the queries in the concluding portion of your letter, I have the honor to state that I believe there is no connection whatever between the Nowgong outbreak in October last and the present disturbances in the Jynteeah Hills, nor have any persons concerned in that outbreak been met with in any of the Jynteeah villages. The rebellion of these Cossyahs has, I fully believe, originated entirely with themselves, and, as far as I have been able to ascertain, no emissaries from without have visited these Hills for the purpose of stirring up sedition.

From Major E. A. Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 111, dated the 9th April 1862.)

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 262A. of the 3rd of February last, I have now the honor to submit the Report called for in continuation of the telegraphic message despatched by me, through the Commissioner of Dacca, on the 27th ultimo, and for the delay in furnishing which I beg to apologize, but which has been caused by my duties with the Forces in the field having left me very little leisure for writing, and from the requisite information having been very difficult to obtain.

2. It will be in the recollection of Government that the Cossyahs of the Jynteeah Hills broke out into open rebellion in 1860, and that

the cause of that rising was the introduction of the House Tax imposed on them in that year for the first time.

3. The rebellion of 1860 was soon suppressed, the Tax collected, and the ringleaders punished by imprisonment and fine; but during the remainder of that year, and in the early part of 1861, constant murmurings were heard, and some of the people were known to have said that, although they would not oppose the collection of the House Tax, they would rebel again if any further Taxes were imposed.

4. In 1860 the Income Tax was passed, and had to be enforced in these Hills as elsewhere, a Report on which was submitted to the Commissioner of Assam in my letter No. 294 of the 20th September 1860, and which is doubtless now before the Government; but, although these Jynteeah Cossyahs had threatened to oppose its introduction, the whole amount due for 1860-61 was collected without any outward signs of discontent having been occasioned by its imposition.

5. During the cold weather of 1860-61 I made a tour throughout the whole of these Hills, and visited almost every village of consequence in them, including all those in the Jynteeah part of the country. At that time the people seemed to me to be quite contented, and certainly shewed no symptoms of a rebellious spirit being rife amongst them.

6. In November 1861 I again visited the Jynteeah Hills, arriving at Jowai on the 15th, and then it was that I first observed signs of discontent, which was manifested by the people refusing to assist me to continue my march, although I only asked them to supply me with fifteen Coolies from the large village of Jowai, which is capable of turning out at least 300 porters. The Jemadar Commanding the Guard of the 44th Regiment Native Infantry stationed in the stockade at Jowai also then informed me that the people there were all, more or less, Rebels at heart, and that he had found it for some time past very difficult to get any aid from them in carrying on the duties connected with his Command.

7. After leaving Jowai, every thing there remained quiet up to the 16th of January, but on the 17th the stockade was surrounded by a large body of Cossyahs, who threatened to attack the Guard: they, however, dispersed on a few shots being fired at them. On the 25th, I, with Colonel Richardson, Commanding at Cherra Poonjee, to whom

I had written to hasten out with a re-inforcement, arrived at Jowai, but found no Rebels near at hand, though the Thannah and a part of the village inhabited by the Native Christians had been burnt down by them on the night of the 23rd.

8. Immediately after my arrival at Jowai I commenced enquiring into the cause of the outbreak, but could obtain no information on this point that could at all be relied on, all the Rebels having gone off to the stockaded villages of Jalong, Latoober, Shamplong, and Munsow. Most of the people present that I questioned stated they did not know why the people had rebelled, and nearly all appeared very unwilling to give any information regarding the origin of the disturbances. Some said it was entirely owing to the imposition of the Income Tax, whilst others said it had been caused by the people having become impressed with an idea that their religion was about to be interfered with.

9. I continued making enquiries wherever I went, and from all available sources, but the result was always the same, one person gave one reason, and another quite a different one, so that I was very averse to saying much on this subject from the fear that, by doing so, I should only be misleading the Government, and might be stating what was not the fact.

10. Up to the present time I feel that, in writing on the causes that have led to the rebellion of the Jynteeah Cossyahs, I am treading on very tender ground. At first the opinion seemed to be pretty general that taxation was the cause of it, and when recollecting that the imposition of the House Tax had caused the rising in 1860, and that these Cossyahs had said they would rebel again if any fresh Taxes were demanded from them, I was inclined to conclude that the Income Tax was the chief reason which urged them to rise in the present instance.

11. Of late, however, it is stated, most commonly, that the introduction of the Income Tax has had nothing to do with it: it was reported to me four days ago by two men who had just escaped from the Rebels that they now say they don't feel the Income Tax at all, but that they have rebelled merely because the Darogah of Jowai went up to Jalong Poonjee on the occasion of a Poojah held there in the end of November and interfered with their proceedings.

12. The Darogah in question is a Cossyah, named Surkee; he was educated at Cherra Poonjee, but not by the Missionaries there, and was never in any way connected with their Schools or mission; he is therefore not a Christian, and not a man likely to have done anything to hinder the performance of Cossyah rites. It is said that he interrupted them when engaged in some ceremony, and forced some of them to speak, which is not allowable on such occasions, and that this obliged them to put a stop to their proceedings before the Poojah was completed.

13. The Darogah, when I questioned him on the subject, denied having done any thing improper; he stated that, as he heard the Jalong people had collected a large quantity of arms, he went up with two Police Sepoys on the occasion of their Poojah, when the weapons would be displayed, to see what they consisted of, and that he made no attempt to take them from them, or to interrupt their Poojah.

14. This Darogah is at present employed with one of the Columns in the field, and not one of the Jalong people have yet been apprehended or come in; but on the 7th, the day before I left Jowai for this place, where I have proceeded expecting to meet General Showers, who wished to see me here, they sent word to me, through a third party, saying they wished to make terms and be allowed to come in, so that by the time I return to Jowai on the 12th instant I hope to find some of them present, when I shall make further enquiries from them as to what actually took place, and, if necessary, put the Darogah on his defence.

15. I must, however, here remark that, even supposing the Darogah did misconduct himself, no complaint whatever was made at the time to me or since to any one else, which is the more extraordinary, as they all, I am told, acknowledge they know I had given strict orders that their Poojahs were not to be interfered with by any one, and that in 1860, when disarming all the villages which then rebelled, on their solicitation, I had, in every instance, given them back arms sufficient to enable them to conduct their Poojahs according to the ancient and established customs.

16. It is also reported that the people of Jowai have always been annoyed at the Military Guard now there having been removed from Amwai to their village: they say that no sooner did the Guard come

than a School was established, and the Missionaries began making converts, and that their former worship was decried. It is said that some of the Christians have been in the habit of taunting the rest, saying that they all would soon have to give up their old Poojahs and become Christians: it is also said that a parcel of land, which belonged to a priestess of Jowai, lately deceased, has been cultivated by the Christians, which ought not to have been done. Of this I only heard a few days ago, as in this instance also no complaint whatever has been made, although the cultivation of the plot of ground in question was undertaken by the Christians upwards of a year ago.

17. It is also made a subject of grievance by some few of the Jowai people that in 1860 I prohibited the burning of dead bodies in a spot within the village, which I did, as the people of the neighbourhood complained of the stench and asserted that sickness was caused thereby.

18. The above is all the information I have as yet been able to collect, or which, I believe, is obtainable at present as to the cause of the rebellion, and I fear the Government may think it very unsatisfactory. I, however, do not like to defer making this report any longer, though, in doing so, I wish I could have stated something more definite, and which could be better relied on. These Jynteeah Cossyahs, as pointed out to the Agent to the Governor General, North-East Frontier, in a letter lately dispatched, and which was doubtless forwarded to the Government, have always been a rebellious and warlike people, and having never been thoroughly conquered, no doubt were under the impression that they could resist the authority of the British Government in the same manner that they formerly defied that of the Jynteeah Rajah. My own impression is that the leaders of the rebellion merely wanted some pretext for breaking out, and that mixed and various motives led the people to join them, some from impatience of taxation, and others from a suspicion that their religion was in danger, which view of the case is, I think, corroborated by the fact that different persons assign various reasons for the outbreak, which partake of the source from which they are derived.

19. Whilst drawing up this Report on the causes which appear to have produced the present rebellion, I have received a copy of a Despatch from the Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 679 of the 18th March last, to which I shall do myself the honor to

reply through the Agent, Governor General, to whom also a copy of this Report will be sent, as directed by Government in a previous communication.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 21, dated the 9th May 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, in original, a letter No. 139, dated the 30th ultimo, from Major Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner, furnishing further details regarding the imposition of the Income Tax in the Jynteeah Hills.

From MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL St. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 130, dated the 30th April 1862.)

SIR,

WITH reference to the letter of the Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal No. 679A. of the 18th ultimo, and the concluding paragraph of my letter No. 111 * of the 9th instant, to the address of the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, reporting on the causes which led to the present rebellion in the Jynteeah Hills, a copy of which was forwarded for your information, I have now the honor to supply some further details regarding the imposition of the Income Tax in that portion of the District, which I now am able to do from having the records of the Office to refer to, but which at the time of making my first Report, submitted in my letter No. 85 of the 25th of March last from Jowai, whilst employed with the Troops in the field, I was unable to do.

* The copy of this letter, owing to the late destruction of the Cutcherry, cannot be found.

2. In my former letter on the subject I explained the principle on which the assessment had been made, and pointed out that the Tax had been introduced in the mildest form possible, consistent with the claims of Government to derive a fair revenue from the people of the Jynteeah Hills, under the operation of the Income Tax Act.

3. Throughout the whole of the Jynteah Hills the amount assessed only reached the sum of Rupees 1,259-8, and in the margin I beg to annex a Statement shewing the number of people assessed to the Tax in each of the Dolloyeships which came under assessment. The highest rate levied was Rupees 9, which was paid by the Dolye of Amwai. Only one person paid Rupees 5, twenty-seven persons Rupees 4-8, and the rest, number-in 281, Rupees 4 each, the total number of persons assessed to the Tax being therefore 310.

		Persons.		Rate.		Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
*	1 Jowai	1	×	5	=	5	0	0			
	"	18	×	4-8	=	81	0	0			
	"	54	×	4	=	216	0	0			
									302	0	0
	2 Nurteng	37	×	4	=				148	0	0
	3 Nungba	4	×	4-8	=	18	0	0			
	"	30	×	4	=	120	0	0			
									138	0	0
*	4 Ralliong	32	×	4	=				128	0	0
*	5 Sathpeonjee ...	26	×	4	=				104	0	0
	6 Nongjoongee ...	25	×	4	=				100	0	0
*	7 Munsow	17	×	4	=				68	0	0
*	8 Nongfloot ...	17	×	4	=				68	0	0
*	9 Shamphong ...	16	×	4	=				64	0	0
*	10 Rumbai	10	×	4	=				40	0	0
	11 Amwai	1	×	9	=	9	0	0			
	"	5	×	4-8	=	22	8	0			
									31	8	0
*	12 Shilliong Muntang ..	6	×	4	=				24	0	0
	13 Sathpathor ..	6	×	4	=				24	0	0
*	14 Satongah	5	×	4	=				20	0	0
	Persons ...	310				Total ...			1,259	0	0

Note.—Those marked with an asterisk rebelled, the others did not.

4. That the plan on which the Tax was assessed had nothing to do with causing the rebellion may, I think, be inferred from the fact that not a single complaint was made by any one person against the rate at which he was assessed, neither did the people ever assert that they were not assessable under the Act. As before observed the Tax for 1860-61 was paid up without a word of complaint having been openly made, and it might from this be supposed that the Income Tax was not the cause of the present rebellion. The fact, however, remains that the people never rebelled before Taxation was introduced, but did so immediately on the House Tax being imposed in 1860; and, had they been prepared, I have little doubt but that the leaders amongst the evil disposed would have tried to get up a rebellion on the introduction of the Income Tax in 1860-61, but were obliged to postpone the attempt till 1861-62, in order to obtain time to mature their plans.

5. In the letter of the Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 793 of the 26th ultimo, to the address of the

Commissioner of Assam, the Government call for a Special Report on the mode of application of the Income Tax to the Jynteeah Hills; and in the 2nd paragraph, which I quote in the margin for ready reference, the Lieutenant-Governor requires a full explanation to be given why no representation was made on the subject of this Tax in regard to the Jynteeah Territory.

The Lieutenant-Governor looks for full explanation from the Local Officers as to why no representation was made on the subject of this Tax in regard to this Territory, particularly as taxation generally now appears, according to Captain Rowlatt's own representation, to have been the cause of the present disturbance.

6. The mode and extent to which the Tax was applied I have endeavoured in the present and previous letter on the subject to explain. I also pointed out that, during the cold season of 1860-61, although I was on a tour of inspection through the Jynteeah Hills from the 26th November 1860 to the 5th of January 1861, not the slightest symptoms of discontent were observable. The Tax, however, had only then just begun to be collected, and on the 6th of March following I left the Hills, having been ordered down to officiate as Judicial Commissioner of Assam at Gowhatty, and I did not return till the 6th July, when I was informed that the whole of the Tax had been collected without difficulty or opposition.

7. From July to November the District remained perfectly quiet, nor had anything occurred up to that time to shew that the people were discontented about the Income Tax. It was, therefore, quite impossible for me to have warned the Government at that time that an outbreak was impending on account of the imposition of this Tax; and that the majority of the people, up to the end of November, if not later, had not the least intention of rebelling may, I think, be gathered from this, that the order which I issued in October, calling upon all the people of these Hills to repair their roads from village to village, was most cheerfully and very generally obeyed by the Sintengs,* which would not have been the case had they at that time made up their minds to rebel.

* The name by which Jynteeah Cossyahs are known.

8. It therefore seems that, up to last November, there was nothing to shew that an outbreak was impending: there, doubtless, must have been discontent lurking in the minds of the disaffected, specially amongst the people of Jowai, but it did not come to the surface till about the

middle of that month, when, on my visit to that village, I plainly saw that something was brewing, though, from what I could gather, it seemed probable that no disturbance would be attempted till February or March, which latter was the month in which they had broken out before in 1860.

9. From the time that I saw signs of a coming storm I wrote continually, both privately and publicly, to the Agent to the Governor General at Gowhatty, fully detailing all I had heard and observed; and when I informed Major Hopkinson that the Guard at Jowai had been suddenly attacked on the 17th of January, he wrote to me in reply as follows:—"I am deeply grieved to hear of the rising at Jowai, though, of course, after what you had previously written me, I was prepared to hear of it, and indeed only yesterday I despatched a letter to Government, in which I noticed that trouble might be expected at Jynteeah".

10. Such being the case, I trust the Government will acquit me of having withheld information as to the state of the Jynteeah Hills previous to the present disturbances, and also absolve me from any blame that may appear to have attached to me in regard to the measures I adopted for the introduction of the Income Tax into those Hills.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 13, dated the 20th May 1862.)

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for submission to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From Major E. A. Rowlatt, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 144, dated the 10th May 1862.)

Sir,

It having come to my knowledge to-day, when turning over some of the records of the Office, that the Forms to be filled up by persons liable to assessment under Act XXXII. of 1860 were issued through the Jynteeah Hills, I beg, should my letter to your address, No. 135 of the 5th instant, not have been forwarded on to Government, that you

will do me the favor of returning it to me, as it contains statements that are not, I find, correct.

2. The mistake I made was caused by the Income Tax Mohurir having informed me, on being questioned, that none of these Forms had been issued. He, however, did not hold the appointment at the time the Forms were issued, and now says he understood my question to have referred to the issue of the Forms during the current year, in which case his reply would have been correct. I much regret the mistake I was led into making; but as I was not present at Cherra Poonjee at the time they were issued, and wrote with the full conviction that none had been issued, I trust you will not object to return the letter, on receipt of which I will, without delay, submit a fresh reply on the subject.

From MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 147, dated the 13th May 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my letter No. 144 of the 10th instant, I have the honor to forward a revised explanation regarding the introduction of the Income Tax into the Jynteeah Hills, in reply to the letter of the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 1125A. of the 22nd ultimo.

2. Should my former letter have been dispatched to Government, I beg to request that this one, numbered 146, may also be forwarded together with copies of this letter and of No. 144; but should my former letter not have been sent off, I beg that the one now forwarded may be substituted for it.

From MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 146, dated the 13th May 1862.)

SIR,

WITH reference to the letter of the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 1125A. of the 22nd ultimo, copy of which was

forwarded to me with your Memorandum No. 7 of the 3rd instant, I beg to submit the following explanation:—

2. The two Reports which I have already submitted on the way in which the Income Tax was introduced into the Jynteeah Hills will, I trust, have clearly proved that the manner of its introduction had nothing to do with exciting the people to rebel. I have also shewn that after the first year's assessment had been paid, and no outward signs of discontent had been manifested up to so late a date as November last, I could not have foreseen the coming outbreak earlier than its probability was reported by me to the Agent to the Governor General, so that, I trust, I need not say anything more on these points.

3. The two questions which now require to be answered appear to be the following:—There was no report made to the Commissioner of Assam as to the plan adopted for introducing the Tax into the Jynteeah Hills, and why were the Forms to be filled up circulated amongst these people who can neither read nor write.

4. With reference to the first question, I beg to state that, on the 20th of September 1860, I addressed the Commissioner of Assam, enquiring whether the existing House Tax was to be maintained, and pointed out that I apprehended great difficulties would be met with in carrying out the Income Tax; but that, by making use freely of the provisions of Part XI. of the Act, I was in hopes that the difficulties I foresaw could be overcome. The paragraph I allude to is annexed in the margin, and until a reply was received no steps were taken to introduce the provisions of Act XXXII. into these Hills.

5 The introduction of these Acts amongst a people who are totally illiterate will be a matter of some difficulty, still unless the Government is prepared to absolve them from all taxation, the attempt must be made, and, by fully availing myself of Part XI. of the Income Tax Act, and the very general Rules issued by the Supreme Government for our guidance, I do not anticipate that the difficulties to be encountered will prove insurmountable.

5. The reply of the Government of Bengal, No. 3202 of the 20th October, was received early in November, and was to the effect that the House Tax was to be continued as heretofore, and that the Income Tax was to be carried out only in those parts of the Hills where Taxes had been previously levied, *i. e.*, in the Jynteeah Territory and those other villages near the Station of Cherra Poonjee which belong to the British Government.

6. Before the receipt of this reply I had left Cherra Poonjee, having, on the 24th of October, proceeded to explore the western portion of the Cossyah Hills as far as the Garrow Frontier, which had never before been visited by any European Officer of Government, and I did not return till the 13th November. On my departure Mr. Shadwell, my Assistant, took charge of the current duties: from that date the management of the Income Tax was almost entirely left to him, as, after my return in November, I again started on the 26th of that month to make a tour through the eastern portion of the Hills, visiting nearly every village of importance in the Jynteeah Country, and examining and reporting on the boundary between the Jynteeah Hills and North Cachar, for which purpose I had to proceed as far as the Kopili River.

7. From this Expedition I did not return to Cherra till the 17th of January, shortly after which I was attacked with fever, from which I did not recover completely till the 20th of February, when I again left the Station for the interior, and on the 6th of March quitted the District for Gowhatty, to which place I had been ordered down to officiate as Judicial Commissioner of Assam.

8. Having previously reported on the manner in which I had proposed to introduce the Income Tax it did not occur to me that any further report was necessary; and as I was not in charge of the Offices when the reply arrived, but was engaged in making myself thoroughly acquainted with the District to which I had only a few months before been appointed, I trust that, if any further report was required of me, this oversight will be excused.

9. With reference to the second question, I beg to state that, to the best of my recollection, before quitting Cherra Poonjee in October, I informed Mr. Shadwell that I was of opinion that it was useless to issue the Schedules required by Act XXXII. to be filled up amongst a people who could neither read nor write, and who never keep accounts: and that I thought the only practicable way of making his assessments would be for him to call upon the Dolloyes to name the persons in each of their Circles whose incomes were liable to taxation, and with their assistance to make up his assessments.

10. This plan appeared to me the best that the circumstances admitted of being adopted, and the one most likely to be acceptable to the people, for, as the Dolloyes are all elected by the people themselves, and are bound to act in matters affecting the community after consultation with them in durbar, it seemed to me that an assessment made in this way would carry with it the concurrence of the people, and would not be at variance with the discretionary modes of levying the Tax under Part XI.

11. It, however, appears that after the Dolloyes had furnished their lists of those liable to assessment some of the people came in to Cherra Poonjee during January and February and filled up the Forms before Mr. Shadwell; but, as a great delay would have occurred had he waited for the whole of them to present themselves before him, it seems that the Income Tax Mohurir was sent out on the 10th March to Jowai with some Forms, and that on the rest of the people assembling there these Forms were filled up.

12. Whether Mr. Shadwell ever obtained my permission to make use of these Forms in the manner described I cannot recollect; but I am told that, when the people appeared before him, he took the opportunity of explaining to them the nature of the Tax, and pointed out to them the smallness of the amount that would be demanded of them, when they all readily agreed to pay the amount they were assessed at, and appeared to be quite satisfied with what had been done.

13. This all occurred in the early part of 1861, and, as before observed, the whole of the Tax for 1860-61, ending on the 31st July, was collected without any opposition or discontent having been manifested.

14. The particulars regarding the issue of the Forms I have gathered from the ministerial Officers and the Office records; but, as I may not have stated fully what was done, I would beg to suggest that Mr. Shadwell be called upon to report on his own proceedings regarding the issue of these Forms.

15. After my return to the District on the 6th July 1861 I frequently conversed with the people regarding the Income Tax, but not a single person complained of having been over-assessed. Some of those,

however, who paid Income Tax, considered it rather hard they should have to pay both House and Income Tax also, and, as it appeared to me that a re-adjustment of the Taxes raised in these Hills was required, on the 26th July 1861, I addressed the Commissioner of Assam on the subject, proposing a modification of the existing system, which I quote in the margin for ready reference. This scheme was approved of and supported by the Commissioner of Assam and the Board of Revenue, who, however, remarked "that the people of these Hills will escape the additional taxation which all other Tribes and Classes are subjected to in the shape of either Income or Licence Tax", which was just the very result that I had in view when drawing up my propositions.

8. Should the above be approved of, the scheme which I propose for raising revenue from the people residing in British Territory in these Hills is, that all as long as they pay Income Tax, or duty for a License to carry on any Art, Trade, or Dealing, shall be exempted from payment of any other Tax, and that from all others a Poll or Capitation Tax be realized in lieu of the House Tax, and that this Tax be divided into three rates of 1-8, 1, and 8 annas instead of being uniform, which is the case with the present House Tax, *i. e.*, I would take off 8 annas from the poorest and add that sum on to the rate to be realized from the wealthier people.

9. As the women and children and the very old and infirm amongst the men cannot, of course, be taxed, I would propose to limit the assessment of the Poll Tax to all males of and above the age of eighteen years, and should this be approved of, the amount that will be collected will not, I believe, differ materially from that yielded by the present House Tax: it may give a little more, but certainly not less; and from all I can gather I am fully persuaded that this scheme, if adopted, will undoubtedly be received by the people in general with much satisfaction.

16. The whole scheme was, however, disapproved of by the Government of Bengal, and, although I do not go so far as to say that the rebellion would have been averted had my scheme been sanctioned, I yet cannot but feel that I did all I possibly could to render the Taxes imposed by the Government as palatable to the people as possible, and that it is hardly just I now should be blamed because those Taxes which the Government even refused to modify have produced a rebellion.

17. In conclusion I beg most respectfully to state that I feel so sure that no act of mine, whether of omission or commission, has in any way caused the present rebellion, that I trust the Government, on a full consideration of the subject, will acquit me of all blame in the matter. Were it otherwise I would not ask this from them, for I hold that an Officer who, by neglect of his duty, or want of judgment in the management of a District, thereby causes such a lamentable state of affairs to arise as that which exists at the present time in the Jynteeah Hills, is not worthy of employment, much less of the confidence of Government; but as I am fully persuaded that I always performed my

duty conscientiously, and have never been guilty of any act that could in any way excuse the conduct of the rebellious people of the Jynteeah Hills, I not only look with confidence to an entire acquittal from all blame, but fully anticipate that, on a complete review of the matter, my conduct, both before and after the rebellion had commenced, will meet with the approval of Government.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No 3, dated the 15th April 1862.)

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 888A. of the 2nd instant, I have the honor to submit, for the information of Government, my opinion as to the origin of the outbreak in the Jynteeah Hills.

2. The subject must be considered with reference to the former administration of the country. The Government of the Jynteeah Territory was transferred to the British in the year 1835 by the Rajah, who in return received a stated allowance of 500 Rupees monthly. His authority over the people was merely nominal; he received from them no revenue, and only certain dues which were of little value. The Dolloyes exercised their power over their own and subordinate villages independently of the Rajah; they have never been reconciled to the transfer of their Territory to the British Government; and they object to being placed under the jurisdiction of a foreign power without their own consent and without being consulted.

3. So long as their old customs and administration were maintained they submitted; but even then only because they were prevented from forming an organised resistance by the activity of Colonel Lister, the Political Agent in these Hills.

4. When, therefore, direct taxation was enforced in the District the relative rights of the Government and the people were brought into direct contact, the independent spirit of the Sintengs led them to resist the authority assumed by the British.

5. It was done in 1860 when the House Tax was introduced; but at that time there was a large Force available to move against them, and the rising was at once subdued.

6. On the present occasion, the imposition of the Income Tax, the insurrection gained head from want of a sufficient Force to coerce them. Colonel Richardson, Commanding the 44th Native Infantry, an active and energetic Officer, moved out with the Force at his Command at the moment, but he could collect barely 100 Rank and File; and though he was successful in his attack on the stockades at Jalong and Munsow, yet the remainder of the District could not at once be visited, and the villages in these portions of the District were enabled to complete their hostile plans without interruption.

7. Taxation is in effect the cause of the insurrection; but occurrences have taken place which have aggravated the feelings of the people and roused them to more determined resistance.

8. The first was the removal of the shields from the people. In a rude state of society there is a chivalry of feeling among the people which leads them to attach importance to their arms and implements of war. Among them shields and swords would be considered of special value. The Sintengs were offended at having them taken away; and this act was rendered more offensive from the shields having been burned before their eyes.

9. The second act occurred only a few days before the present outbreak, and has by many been supposed to be the cause of it. At a certain season a festival is held in which a war dance is celebrated. In this dance the use of swords and shields is a part of the ceremony. At Jalong, while it was in the act of performance, the Darogah of Jowai went to ascertain, according to his own statement, what was going on; whether he interfered with the ceremony is not clear, but whatever he did was considered an interruption to the festival. The report is he was beaten by them; this has not been as yet proved; but after the occurrence the Darogah proceeded on leave to Cherra, and within a fortnight after the first act of the insurrection commenced.

10. I heard of this from different parties, and on my arrival at Jowai I had intended, if I found the reports confirmed, to direct the immediate removal of the Darogah; but he is represented as having done good service against the Rebels in the Jynteeah District since the outbreak. I propose, therefore, for the present, to let him remain in office, but at a distance from his former Station.

11. It is seldom on account of a single measure of Government that a people rise up in rebellion against the State, and, though the introduction of the Income Tax may be the original cause of discontent, yet it appears doubtful whether the feelings of the people would have broken out into open violence unless they had been aggravated by the acts of the Local Authorities.

12. The state of feeling among the Jynteeahs on my return to Jowai I found to be still unsatisfactory. On first visiting the Hills I forwarded a letter from Major Rowlatt, reporting that all the stockades erected by the Rebels in the different villages had been taken; that the Rebels themselves had dispersed in small parties, and would be incapable of again making a combined resistance.

13. Since that time some few villages to the westward have come in, but those to the east, the leaders of the insurrection, are as violent as ever. There is no intelligence of their haunts, and I am unable to learn where they are to be reached.

14. The first object of the Government must be to obtain the submission of the Rebels, and it should be done without destroying the country by burning of villages, or humbling too far the spirit of the Sintengs.

15. I have submitted to Government the copy of a Proclamation I have issued to the Rebels. I have further offered pardon to all who apply for it on the condition of bringing in their arms. Certain exceptions have been made, such as leaders of the insurrection, whose names I forward for the information of Government, and men who have been guilty of gross acts of treachery, or of crimes which should not be pardoned.

16. I have offered a reward of Rupees 1,000 to any one who shall bring in Ookiang Nongbah, the principal instigator of the rebellion, and I propose to punish others who have been most active in assisting in the revolt.

17. During my short stay at Jowai some Dolloyes appeared before me and promised to bring in the inhabitants of some of the most refractory villages. I agreed to receive them if they came in on the conditions above stated. At the same time I do not intend to trust to such measures alone to restore the quiet and peace of the District. I propose to carry on my Military operations actively. I shall move my

Columns through every part of the District, and along the glens and valleys of rivers where it is probable the Rebels have concealed their families and stores.

18. I have already commenced these operations; the Column under my own Command will move to Nongfloot near the banks of the Kopili. A second will advance to Ralliong to co-operate with mine; and the various Columns in the south will move up the banks of the Muntang and Sundriang to search that part of the District.

19. But I consider it necessary to state that the insurrection, such as that of the Jynteeahs has become, cannot be suddenly subdued. It is not probable the people will consent to come in at once on terms which the British Government are justified in offering. If they are not accepted we must trust to activity and firmness to overcome their obstinate conduct, and this will, of necessity, be the work of time.

No. IV.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 4, dated Camp Barato, the 19th April 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of Government, that, in accordance with the plans communicated in my letter No. 3 of the 15th instant, I moved out on the following day to Munsow. I found the place deserted, and there was no sign of the site having been visited by the inhabitants. At night, however, two shots were fired into the camp, but this had been anticipated, and a picket that had been planted during the night in that direction immediately took up the fire and drove the Rebels off.

2. The next morning a simultaneous movement was made by the Troops along the valley of the Muntang. Major Rowlatt accompanied the Detachment that moved through the valley of the river. His report I have the honor to forward for submission to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. I myself accompanied the Force that advanced along the heights. As we moved on, a Jemadar's party was detached into a thick ravine that fell into the Muntang. He observed huts on the sides of the Hill and men in the distance, who were too far to follow up.

A second party was detached through another ravine, which, however, observed nothing.

When within three miles of Ralliong, I observed in the valley below active signs of cultivation, and cattle and goats grazing. A small party under Captain Clarke, my Orderly Officer, was thrown out on the right; but, as a number of men were afterwards observed in the village, this party was strengthened. They proceeded along the brow of the Hill overlooking the village, and came up with some 200 men, many of them armed. They fled, however, on the approach of Captain Clarke's party. He could not come up with them, but he captured a woman with her child, whom he brought into camp.

The main body of the Column at the same time moved down into the village, but the men fled and were lost in the ravines before the

Column reached. It was these men probably that Captain Clarke's party fell in with.

There were but a few huts in the village: the valley below was covered with ground prepared for the cultivation of rice. It was well watered, and gave every prospect of a plentiful harvest. The Columns all reached camp by 2 o'clock.

To co-operate with the Column under my personal Command a Detachment had been despatched to Ralliong on the 16th instant: it was ordered to advance on that place on the 17th, and immediately on its arrival to throw out parties on the Muntang to intercept fugitives that might be driven in this direction by the Head-Quarter's Column. It was placed under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, and succeeded in capturing one man and thirteen women and children. An abstract of the information given by the several women is herewith forwarded, by which His Honor will observe that there is a desire among many of the inhabitants to come in, but that they are prevented as yet from doing so by their Dolloyes and leading men of villages.

The operations of the Troops are to be actively carried on, and it is probable the interruption to the cultivation, which will be caused by the constant movement of Troops through the country, will induce the Rebel bodies to give themselves up.

From MAJOR E. A. ROWLATT, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(dated Camp Ralliong, the 17th April 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for your information, that, in accordance with your directions, I proceeded with the Column under the Command of Lieutenant Jarrett, of Her Majesty's 28th Regiment Native Infantry, to explore the valley of the Muntang between Munsow and Ralliong, and clear it of any of the Rebels that might be secreting themselves in the jungles covering the Hills on each side of that river.

2. The Column under Lieutenant Jarrett left Munsow soon after that under your personal Command had got clear of the village. For about the first mile the path led down the side of the Hill until it reached the

Muntang River. On the way down we observed a few small huts which were visited, but they were empty. There were, however, the marks of food having been cooked in one of them during the night and of about four persons having partaken of it. These people appear to have gone down towards the river, but after tracking their foot-prints for some distance all further trace of them was lost.

3. After reaching the bed of the river we had to travel over large boulders and occasionally to ascend the sides of the Hills on either side of the river: this part of the road is perfectly impracticable for horses, and the path in most places almost imperceptible: in no place were there any marks of people having been living about these jungles, nor was any cultivation observable on either side of the river until we approached near under the village of Shilliong Muntang.

4. On nearing the last named village the path led up to the heights to the north of the river on which Shilliong Muntang is situated, and as we had to quit this path, the party had to force their way through the jungle for about two miles, until we fell in with the path leading from that village towards Ralliong.

5. After leaving Munsow, and until arriving within about a mile of Ralliong, we saw no one; but about this distance from this village we observed four women working in the fields, who, however, ran away before we could communicate with them. Shortly afterwards a man crossed the path ahead of us, and he, on being called to, stood still, and although at first he seemed to be afraid of coming towards us, he eventually allowed me to walk up to him and accompanied us into Ralliong.

6. This man proved to be a villager belonging to Shamphong, who cultivates land in the Ralliong jurisdiction. He stated to me that the majority of the Rebels had gone off eastward on hearing of the Troops in this direction, but that he would endeavour to bring in the people of Shamphong and Ralliong if permitted to go and invite them in.

7. This man also confirms the reports I had formerly received that the Doloye of Ralliong, named Oobong, had done all he could to prevent the village from joining in the rebellion, but that Bakhair and Ookut Pathors had exerted their influence to induce the people to erect stockades, and that it is the former who is now preventing the people from submitting and returning to their allegiance to the Government.

Abstract of the information given by the Women of Shamphong captured by Colonel Richardson's Column.

That the people of Shamphong wish to elect a Doloye to take in their submission, but are prevented doing so by the principal men of Jowai and Jalong, who threaten to kill all those who give themselves up. That the Rebels have taken to the jungles and remain in no one place for any length of time. That the Jowai and Jalong people were the instigators of the rebellion.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 5, dated Shilliong Muntang, the 22nd April 1862.)

Sir,

As His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor may like to be informed of every phase of feeling among the Sintengs as it occurs, I beg to report, in continuation of my letter No. 4 of the 19th instant, that a Guard which had been detached by Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson to join me at Barato surprised at Shilliong Muntang, on its route, a party of men and women. They brought them on. On examination I found one of them to have been formerly a Pathor. He represented he had come to Shilliong Muntang by the invitation of the Bur Dolloye, a designation given to the Dolloye of Nurteng, who is considered the Chief of the Dolloyes, with the intention of accompanying him to my camp to offer his submission, and that the party with him had met for a similar purpose.

2. The Bur Dolloye, it may be proper to mention, has shewn himself anxious to restore peace and order into the District, and has exerted himself to induce those who are loyally inclined to offer their submission. This man had left Jowai the day before I moved out to confer with the inhabitants of some of the villages who had been foremost in the insurrection and advise them to give themselves up, and he had promised to join me at Barato, to report whether he had been successful or otherwise. He came in during the evening according to promise, and confirmed the statement made by the ex-Pathor and his companions. They were, of course, on his report, immediately released.

3. Other favorable demonstrations were made on the 21st, but they were of minor importance.

This morning, however, after my arrival at this place, a number of the residents of the village, and among them a proscribed Dolloye, presented themselves and offered their submission. This movement was effected by the Bur Dolloye, who had preceded the Column in the morning and prepared the residents for my coming. In conformity with the terms of my Proclamation, those whose names were not included in the list of the proscribed were pardoned, their names were registered, and they were allowed to return to their occupations. The Dolloye has been confined and will be tried under the Act by the Special Commission.

4. It is expected that during the next two or three days the whole village will come in and re-settle themselves. I consider this movement important, as the inhabitants of Shilliong Muntang were represented as among the most refractory in the District; but I refrain for the present from offering further comment, as there is still an angry feeling abroad, which prevents my forming any expectation of an immediate settlement of the disturbances in the District.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 8, dated Camp Jowai, the 26th April 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report that I returned to Jowai on the 24th instant, and found messages from some of the refractory villages awaiting my arrival. There is now evidently a rapidly extending desire among the people to tender their submission, but they still hesitate to come in that they may first ascertain, as it seems, whether the terms offered in my Proclamation will be acted upon.

2. The first instance of this, since my Column left Shilliong Muntang, appeared among a party of men who were watching us on our march from Shamphong to this. They continued to follow the Column on a range of Hills running parallel to our line of march, but at some considerable distance. I sent a small party to discover who they

were. On the Soldiers approaching they ran, but one came forward and said they wished to give themselves up. He was brought into camp. He proved to be an inhabitant of Mooklow, a subordinate village to Shamphong, and represented the whole village was prepared to submit, and he had come forward to learn on what terms they were to be received. The Proclamation was explained to him, and he has returned to communicate it. He has promised to return in five days.

3. A second instance was reported by the Jemadar of the Cossyah Police, who mentioned having received a message from the inhabitants of Jowai. This village is acknowledged by all to have taken the lead in the insurrection, and the one that has been most resolutely opposed to the authority of the British Government.

4. The day following, the friendly Dolloye of Nongbah communicated a message from some families belonging to Jowai, Munsow, Jalong, and Latoober, stating that if I would go out to meet them at Nurteng or Nongjoongee all the inhabitants would tender their submission.

5. I objected to moving out to meet them, as I have, on all occasions, avoided making any demonstrations of soliciting their submission. Until they feel the power of the British Government, and that pardon is a great boon, their submission will be but temporary, and they will be ready to break out again whenever they may suppose they are aggrieved. By obliging the people to come forward unconditionally the settlement will probably be a little longer delayed, and it may oblige me to move out again; but the settlement by this means, when it is effected, will be more complete, and will place the relations between the people and the Government on a clear and more satisfactory footing.

6. I accordingly directed a reply to be made that, if the men desired pardon, they must come and apply for it wherever I might be. They are now to come on the 28th, after which a large deputation is to follow.

7. The reports from Shilliong Muntang continue very satisfactory. The people with their families are coming in in numbers, and I have now detached Lieutenant Andrew, Assistant Commissioner, who lately arrived from Assam, to proceed to that place to superintend the arrangements.

8. The only unsatisfactory reports I have received are from the southern part of the District. The movements I had directed to be made in that quarter have been stopped by an Officer in Command of one of the Detachments having failed to execute his orders; but, as I learned last night that this Officer had reached the post to which he had been directed, the movements, I conclude, are in course of execution. The result I shall have the honor to report hereafter.

9. I beg to report that I have directed Major Rowlatt, the Deputy Commissioner, to proceed to Cherra Poonjee to prepare the Annual Papers and Reports, and Mr. T. Smith, late the Joint Magistrate of Sylhet, I have appointed to the District of Jynteeah, having his Station at Jowai.

10. I have further directed the two Detachments of the 28th Native Infantry to proceed to Gowhatty as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made for their moving, and the Company at Berhampore will be sent there also.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 90, dated Camp Jowai, the 29th April 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, two Reports, in original, from Lieutenant Udny, of the 44th Native Infantry, whom I left in Command of a Detachment of his Regiment at Shilliong Muntang.

2. These Reports are satisfactory. The obedience of the men of this village may now be considered to be established.

3. The report that Lieutenant Udny makes of the Sirdars of Barato having come in is also satisfactory, as they had before declared their resolution to hold out to the last. The result of the durbar that is to be held will not be known for a few days, as the men are scattered in jungles and glens, and there will be delay in collecting them.

4. I beg to enclose a Diary of occurrences since I returned to Jowai, by which the Lieutentant-Governor will observe the advances that are daily making towards the pacification of the District.

5. There is evidently a growing desire among the people to come in and tender their submission. I have reports and messages from all the refractory villages but two, Ralliong and Rumbai, expressing their wish to come in. One report states that nine families are in a particular place, and are only prevented from presenting themselves from some fancied danger. A second, that the whole village has paid in the House Tax to the Dolloye, who is unable to bring in the amount from fear of the threats of the more obstinate Rebels. A third party actually sends in the House Tax through a friendly Dolloye; but, notwithstanding these favorable assurances, it is yet a fact that the people who send the messages are still in their glens and forests.

6. I have endeavored to publish my Proclamation throughout the District; but the people have no written language, and it is difficult to make known among them the intentions of the Government. The friendly Dolloyes are still afraid to go among them, and when they do have the opportunity of communicating the terms of the Proclamation, it must be done orally. It is then doubtful whether it is reported correctly, and if it is, the people will distrust the message.

7. I propose, therefore, moving out with a strong Column to some of the principal villages to ascertain personally that the Proclamation has been correctly understood, and to afford the men who are in the vicinity the opportunity of coming to tender their submission.

8. The movements of the different Columns, which I reported in a former letter I had directed to be made, have been completed. They have been variously successful. I have now commenced a second series of movements.

9. The residents of the village of Ralliong have, I am led to think from a report from Mr. Ingels to the Deputy Commissioner at Nowgong, fled to the banks of the Kopili and taken shelter in caves in the vicinity of that River. To these people I propose hereafter, when the men of the other villages have been settled, to send the Police Darogah, who will then have no difficulty in bringing them in.

10. I do not intend to discontinue the movements of the Columns until I find the principal villages are settled, and even after that escorts will have to proceed to the different posts in charge of supplies. I propose, therefore, to apply to the proper Department for oil skin Capes and Caps for 300 men.

11. The rains have already begun. It has rained continuously for the last three days. This is the weather, I am informed, may be expected throughout the season; and as there will be little dry weather, the men should be protected, as much as possible, from the incessant rain.

Diary of the arrival of Men who have come in to tender their submission.

26th April 1862.—Four men and twenty women and children at Jowai appeared and gave themselves up to the Commissioner. Their names were registered and they were allowed to return to their homes.

The ousted Dolloye of Munsow came in. He received pardon, and, after his name was registered, was allowed to return to his village. He stated he would bring in forty families.

27th.—A Report was received from Lieutenant Walcott stating that eighty-nine men of Batour, and eighteen of Rungatt, had come and given themselves up to him.

Oohet Cossyah of Latoober appeared before the Commissioner and stated that the people of his village were about holding a durbar for the purpose of giving themselves up with their arms on the 29th instant.

28th.—Twenty-four persons of Jowai and a man of Jalong appeared and gave themselves up to the Commissioner. Their names were registered and they were allowed to return to their homes.

The Dolloye of Nungbah appeared and stated that six families at one of the subordinate villages of Jowai had paid their House Tax to him in token of their submission. They were required to appear before the Commissioner. The Pathor of Nungbah stated to the Commissioner that five families of some of the subordinate villages of Jowai wished to give themselves up, and was prepared to give their names.

A party of eleven men and women were brought in by a Guard, who, it appeared on examination with the statement of those men who had previously come in, were proceeding to present themselves before the Commissioner and were their brothers and relations; they were, with one exception (who was kept for further examination), allowed to return to their homes after their names were registered.

A Report was received form Lieutenant Walcott stating that a Matabor of Rungatt had given himself up to that Officer.

From LIEUTENANT G. C. UDNY, Commanding Detachment, 44th Native Infantry, to the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(dated Shillong Muntang, the 27th April 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that every thing is quiet at this place. Some of the Sirdars of Barato have come in. My Force has been strengthened by the arrival of the Detachment from Munsow and is now as per margin.

1 Jemadar.
3 Haviladrs.
4 Naicks.
76 Sepoys.

From LIEUTENANT G. C. UDNY, Commanding Detachment, 44th Native Infantry, to the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(dated Shillong Muntang, the 20th April 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that all the villagers of this place have come in. I sent three men yesterday to Barato; they saw about fifty of the Rebels in the village, and they sent back word that they would hold a durbar to decide about coming in or not and send word about their decision; the place is quiet and no signs of the enemy near at hand.

1 Havildar.
2 Naicks.
27 Sepoys.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 18, dated Camp Jowai, the 6th May 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for submission to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the Diary of Proceedings since my last dispatch, and a Report from Lieutenant Andrew, Assistant Commissioner, whom I had directed to proceed to Shilliong Muntang to settle that village.

2. From the Diary His Honor will observe that, though there has been no great increase numerically of the men who have given in their submission, yet it has been progressing steadily.

3. There are two leading causes which prevent a rapid progress. The first is a doubt in the minds of the people of the manner they will be received and treated. Wild reports have been circulated of the barbarous intentions of the Government towards them; and as they have no written language, it is only by means of verbal communications that

they can be approached. This is difficult to be done, as the majority of them are concealed in their glens and forests, and are beyond the reach of communication by Government servants, through whom alone truthful statements can be conveyed.

4. The second is the threats that are held out by the Rebels of plundering and destroying the villages and property of those who give in their submission. Many, therefore, who are really loyally inclined, still continue in the jungles to avoid being attacked by them. The arrangements that I have made for the defence of Shilliong Muntang will inspire confidence when they are known; but then, on the other hand, the difficulty arises as to the means of making these generally known.

5. The letter from Lieutenant Andrew is so far important that it reports the settlement of the most important village of the Trans-Muntang portion of the District, and of the capture of another of the proscribed Rebels.

6. The same report mentions the murder of two Sepoys who were proceeding from Nurteng to Shilliong Muntang with a Dawk Runner. It appears they were attacked by about twenty men armed with bows and arrows. The Sepoys were young, inexperienced men, and must have fired wildly, which gave confidence to the Sintengs. I heard of it yesterday on my arrival at Munsow, and immediately sent a Detachment to attack the village. It was subordinate to Munsow. The inhabitants fled on the arrival of the Detachment, but the village was burnt and destroyed.

7. I had gone out with the intention of visiting the friendly villages with a weak escort and had not a sufficient number of men with me to search effectually the glens around the place where the Rebels had found shelter. I have come in to organise the formation of other Columns to send into different parts of the country, as this act of treachery, after the very conciliatory measures that had been adopted towards them, should be punished. The hostility indicated by this murder is not general among all the inhabitants, as I found, on arriving at Munsow, that thirty-six of all classes had come in, and many more had proposed to tender their submission and settle at Tackmang. They are to report themselves to any Officer who may visit Munsow in Command of a Detachment.

8. The following arrangements have accordingly been made: a Detachment will be sent out to-morrow to skirmish through the Koorungs within the jurisdiction of Munsow.

9. A second Detachment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, is under orders to proceed to Nongfloot in search of the Rebels who are concealing themselves in the jungle in the vicinity.

10. I propose myself to march in Command of a separate Detachment to Munsow to co-operate in skirmishing through the valley of the Muntang and to proceed afterwards *viâ* Ralliong to Sonaie. This place is stated to be within two hours journey of the Kopili Falls and the hot springs, and near the village of Thoomoogoho, which was plundered by the Sintengs as reported by Mr. Ingels, the Extra Assistant Commissioner, Nowgong, dated 28th March 1862.

11. If it be practicable I will send a Detachment of fifty Muskets under an European Officer to Assaloo. The greatest difficulty will be with regard to supplies, as none, I understand, are to be obtained in North Cachar, the supplies for the Police Detachment stationed there having to be brought from Nowgong.

I quite agree in opinion with the Commissioner of Assam that, for the present at least, a Detachment should be stationed at Assaloo.

Diary of the arrival of Men who have come in to tender their submission.

Jowai, 30th April 1862—A report received from the Naib Darogah Soorkee, stated that the people of Burghât, Pachador, Teeting, and Nichanpore had paid their revenue, and that he had detained the Majee of Burghât until further orders.

Six men of Latoober came in and gave themselves up to the Commissioner with their arms, consisting of ten bows, twenty-eight arrows, two swords, and two shields. They stated the people of their village had held a durbar, at which it was decided to tender their submission. That, others in consequence of this resolution, were about to follow. The names of the six men were registered, and they were allowed to return to their village.

1st May 1862.—Two men of Jalong, four of Shampoong, and a man of Munsow, came and gave in their submission, they at the same time

paid their House Tax. Their names were registerd, and they were allowed to return to their homes.

Nurteng, 2nd May 1862.—Information was given, on Commissioner's visiting Nurteng, that a number of the women and children of the fugitive Rebels had visited the Nurteng market. It appears they with their husbands are fugitives, and that they will take the first opportunity to come in.

Nurteng, 3rd May 1862.—Six men of Jowai were brought in to the Commissioner at Nurteng to give their submission. Their names were registered, and they were allowed to return to their homes.

Nongjoongee, 5th May 1862.—One man of Jowai was brought in to Nongjoongee by the Dolloye of that village. His name was registered, and he was allowed to return to his occupations.

Munsow, 5th May 1862.—The Commissioner on visiting Munsow found thirty-six persons, men, women, and children, had returned to the village. They were brought in by Oohay Dolloye, who, as stated in my Report No. 9, dated 29th ultimo, promised to bring in forty families.

Five men of Jalong sent in their submission, and House Tax, by the Pator of Nongbah to the Commissioner while at Munsow. They were ordered to attend in person.

Lieutenant Andrew, Assistant Commissioner, reported that great numbers of the young men of Shilliong Muntang had come in and tendered their submission, and there was no longer a doubt that the whole village had accepted the terms of the Proclamation. He also sent in a proscribed Rebel by name Ookma Dolloye. He further reported that two Sepoys escorting the Dawk to Shilliong Muntang were surrounded by the Rebels between that place and Munsow and were killed.

Colonel Richardson, Commanding 44th Native Infantry, reports that, on the 3rd May, ten men of Ralliong came within speaking distance of Lieutenant Sadleir, and promised to bring in thirty families if they were not molested. The promise was given.

Three men of Jowai came in and gave themselves up to Mr. Smith, Assistant Commissioner, on the 2nd and 5th instant; their names were registered, and they were allowed to return to their village.

Jowai, 6th May 1862.—Six men of Jowai were brought in by the instrumentality of the Christians of Jowai. Their names were registered, and they were allowed to return to their homes. Their families, consisting of about twenty-nine women and children, are expected in to-morrow.

CAMP JOWAI, *The 6th May* 1862. } ST. G. D. SHOWERS, *Brigadier-General, Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.*

From LIEUTENANT A. ANDREW, Assistant Commissioner of the Jynteeah Hills, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 3, dated Camp Shillong Muntang, the 3rd May 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for your information, that, during the last two or three days, great numbers of the young men of this village have come in and tendered their submission, and that there can now no longer be a doubt that the whole village has considered it advisable to accept the terms offered by Government. The portion of the Poonjee I previously reported empty is now, I am happy to say, thickly populated. I am of opinion that the extra Troops brought with me from Munsow must have alarmed the villagers; that they accordingly waited; but finding no steps were taken offensively have thought better of it and come in.

2. Villagers of Le Terrien and Shifrang have also come in, but I regret to say that up to date the inhabitants of Barato remain obstinate. Their leaders are Oolien Bandaree and Ooher Lungdo.

3. I this morning proceeded in company with Lieutenant Udny, one Havildar, and eight men to the eastern part of the village, partly for the purpose of seeing how matters were progressing, and partly because I consider that the more one mixes with the Cossyahs, the sooner they will cease to fear Europeans and Sepoys. On my return we met a party of Cossyahs emerging from a jungle-path that leads towards Barato, and with them was Ookher Sungut.

4. The party did not perceive us until they were within Musket shot. On my calling to them they came forward, and the interpreter pointed one of them out to me as Ookma Dolloye. I immediately handed them (Ookher and Ookma) over to Lieutenant Udny, and they were brought in prisoners.

5. I first interrogated the Dolloye, who stated that the other Rebels would not let him come in previously, and that he was then on his way coming to give himself up. I, from the attendant circumstances, believe this statement to be true. On his person were found four slugs, and I am informed by his brother that the Dolloye's musket is concealed with his dhan, cattle, &c., near Barato. The prisoner and his belongings shall be sent in to-morrow, and, if I succeed in finding the musket and cattle, I will forward them on the following day.

6. Ookher Sungut was next questioned as to his absence of five days, and he stated that he could not get the Dolloye to come in, and was unable to find him for a day or two. This is untrue, as when I sent for him on the first, he replied that if the Dolloye came he would, otherwise not. I have, nevertheless, considering he would be useful to Government, taken upon myself the responsibility of pardoning him, subject to certain conditions.

7. I, through the Dolloye of this place, administered to him the oath prevailing among these Tribes, *viz.*, eating salt placed on a door, and he swore that he would, on condition of being pardoned, endeavor to bring in the Barato people, and otherwise serve Government to the best of his ability. Having done this I despatched him to Barato to make enquiries, to shew the people the folly of resisting, and the benefits that will accrue by their coming in without further delay, and to prepare those who may be well disposed for a visit I intend making them. He returns at daybreak to-morrow with the necessary information. Previously to despatching him I gave him fully to understand that, if he played me false, his life would be the penalty should he be again captured.

8. From information received I trust soon to be able to report more favorably of the Barato people: it appears to me that many are willing to come in, but are deterred by their leaders. As soon as ever a move is made I will leave a Guard there as empowered by yourself.

9. Yesterday I received instructions from Mr. Smith to proceed to Munsow "as soon as the District adjacent to this shall have been settled," but infer from this that I am, if possible, to get in the Barato people first.

10. I have the honor further to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, and at the same time regret to be obliged to report the melancholy fate of the Guard escorting the same. Between

this and Munsow they were surrounded by a large number of Rebels, all, according to the guide's account, men of Munsow: the Sepoys, two in number, gave the letter to the guide, who brought it in, and were left by him, endeavoring to defend themselves. Immediately on hearing of this a Guard was despatched. They brought in one poor fellow's body at about 9 p. m. frightfully mangled, but had not seen the other. He has doubtless shared the same fate. His musket, bayonet, and ammunition has fallen into the hands of the enemy.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 20, dated Camp Barato, the 8th May 1862.)

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 18 of the 6th instant, I have the honor to report, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, that, in conformity with the intentions therein stated, I moved out to Munsow on the 7th. During the day I had directed a temporary bridge to be thrown across the Muntang, and, as I was informed the Rebels had previously broken down every bridge that had been made, I directed a Guard to be posted there at night. The Rebels came as usual to destroy it, and one of them was surprised and shot.

2. In the morning I proceeded across the Muntang and skirmished over the ground where the Sepoys were killed. On the appearance of the Detachment making a movement to the left a shrill cry was given, and on the direction of the flank movement having been ascertained they disappeared.

The Detachment reached Shilliong Muntang without further disturbance.

On arriving, however, at this place a report was communicated to me by Lieutenant Andrew, the Assistant Commissioner, that the Rebels, to the number of between two and three hundred, were lying in ambuscade about four miles on the road to Barato. The conduct hitherto pursued by the Sintengs did not justify my believing this report; but I thought it better to advance on without delay to this to meet any possible combination that might be forming, as it was probable the accident of cutting off two Sepoys would encourage the Rebels to a bolder line of conduct than they have as yet shewn.

After halting to allow the men to take a hasty meal I advanced on to this. The friendly cultivators of Shilliong Muntang reported that scouts were on the road; but we saw no enemy beyond two men who ran across the road flourishing their swords and dashed into the thick glen by the side of the road.

My arrival at Barato, however, I learned by an inhabitant of the village who has joined me, disturbed a durbar that was being held. There were only fifty men assembled, who, on seeing my Column, dispersed and went in the direction of Nongfloot.

This change in my plans will delay my arriving at Jowai for a day or two, but I propose to carry out my original intention so soon as Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, with his Detachment from Ralliong, shall arrive.

Memorandum from MAJOR T. WRIGHT, Officiating Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 982, dated the 29th May 1862.)

FORWARDED for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL SR. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division, to the Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 159A., dated Camp Ralliong, the 14th May 1862.)

SIR,

IN conformity with the intentions expressed in my letter No. 151A. of the 10th instant, I proceeded on that day to Noujelong.

2. It may be proper to mention that I considerd it necessary to change the plans I had formed, as reported in my letter No. 150A. of the 7th instant, in consequence of reports communicated to me, on my arrival at Shilliong Muntang, by the Assistant Commissioner who had been stationed there, of a large body of Rebels having assembled in the vicinity between that place and Barato.

3. I considered it possible that the little advantage the Rebels had gained by murdering the two Sepoys on the third night have given them confidence and emboldened their scattered parties to meet together to face our Troops. I determined, therefore, to meet them at once. Halting at Shilliong Muntang for a short time to allow of the men taking their dinner, I proceeded on to Barato to attack them. I met, however, but two men who rushed across the road beyond musket shot, and then were lost in the thick forest.

4. Immediately after my arrival I sent a party under Captain Clarke to reconnoitre round the surrounding forest. A shot was fired at him by the Rebels; but after this the Column remained undisturbed during the night.

5. The next day I went out with a portion of the Force to reconnoitre through the country. There were some few men in an adjoining village who were watching the movements of the Column, and, thinking they might belong to the party of Rebels said to be assembled here, I followed them, but after a time they disappeared in the jungle. They were probably cultivators, whom the arrival of the Column had disturbed.

6. On returning to Barato I found Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson with a Detachment of eighty muskets had arrived for the purpose of proceeding to Nongfloot.

7. Before returning to the south I thought it better to proceed with my own and Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson's Detachment to skirmish through the forest on both banks of the Mundriang. I accordingly proceeded the next morning with the Column to Noujelong, leaving a strong Detachment to hold Barato. We saw no enemy : two parties of four and five men appeared at a long distance along our route, but beyond firing a gun far beyond musket range, there was no attempt at opposition.

8. The next day I went with my own Detachment to Hurwan, where, it was reported, a portion of the Rebels had taken shelter. Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson was directed to remain a second day at Noujelong for the purpose of moving through the forest at leisure. My march was unattended with any occurrence worthy of remark: a few men were seen running along the tops of the Hills, but at too great a

distance, to distinguish whether they were armed, or men carrying loads. Hurwan was deserted, and we were not disturbed throughout the night.

9. Throughout this march it has been evident the Rebels cannot bring any number of men together which may not be overcome and seized by a strong Police. They are now mere marauders. Further Military operations, therefore, for the suppression of the Rebels will no longer, in that quarter, be necessary.

10. But these marauders are very active, they move through the different portions of the District where Troops are not stationed, and alarm the people, by threats of killing them and burning their houses, from returning to their villages and resuming their occupations, and, from the absence of Troops in the vicinity to protect them, these threats have had considerable effect. During my late expedition in the northern parts of the District I have observed this in more than one instance.

11. To meet this difficulty I have arranged to post 180 Rank and File in the Trans-Muntang tract. I have placed them under the Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, an active and energetic Officer, who has given me great satisfaction throughout the operations. He will have his Head-Quarters at Barato, a position which will enable him to protect the cultivators of the newly settled village of Shilliong Muntang, and command the south bank of the Mundriang and the adjoining glens and forests. It is further of importance, as the inhabitants of Barato are the hottest in their resistance and a Force at the village will shew them they cannot re-occupy it except as loyal subjects of the State.

12. From Barato Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson has been directed to send strong Detachments, whenever he may consider necessary, to Noujelong, Punjap, and the Kaklow Dolloye, a thick forest, where the Rebels occasionally take shelter; and during breaks in the weather he will proceed to Mokeem and other villages in the jungle track of Nongfloot, where he will halt a day whenever he may think it will be of advantage.

13. These arrangements in the north will give to those who are peaceably and loyally inclined the assurance of the protection of the

Government, and it will prove to the Rebels that they will not be allowed to settle in security even in their remote and wild Districts.

14. I am now on my route to the Kopili falls and hot springs to carry out the plan reported in my letter No. 150A. of the 7th instant.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 29, dated Dingling, the 22nd May 1862.)

Sir,

I have the satisfaction to report, for the information of Government, that active Military operations in the Jynteeah Hills are at an end, and that the spirit of the insurrection is subdued.

In dealing with this wide-spread outbreak throughout the District the measures to meet it have been rendered more difficult by the double object which had to be kept in view. While opposing and subduing the open hostility of the Rebels which required great severity it was necessary to carry on the operations in such a manner as to allay alarm, to give confidence to those who had remained loyal, and to assure that portion of the inhabitants who had deserted their villages and houses, in consequence of the threats of the Rebels, that the British Government were both willing and able to protect them. Accordingly, after the Rebels had been dispersed and their stockaded villages destroyed, Columns of sufficient strength to meet any armed bands that still kept together, were organized to move through the country; and His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will observe, from the Map which I have had drawn up, that they have traversed every quarter of the District. There is scarcely a village or forest glen that has not been visited by one or other of the Columns, and the temporary huts that the Rebels had erected for their shelter, and the stores of grain collected for subsistence during these insurrectionary movements, have either been destroyed or made use of for the British Forces.

The power of the Government has not only been displayed, but the activity and endurance of the Troops engaged have proved to the inhabitants that there is no difficulty, or danger, or labor, that disciplined Soldiers will not encounter.

At the same time while these severe and active measures were being carried on, the Commanders of Columns had instructions to distinguish between Rebels in actual resistance, and those who were fugitives; and it is by the successful manner in which these Commanders have conducted their operations that so many have been brought in within so short a space of time.

The Rebels, though they have been able to elude our Troops by the advantages which mountains and thick forests afford for shelter, have, however, suffered severely in the loss of houses, grain, and other property, and I regret to add from casualties in their families, from exposure and sickness, and the present operations will be a warning to them against again waging war or resisting the authority of the British Government.

But a general rising of a people cannot be subdued by mere Military operations. Some of the Chiefs of the insurrection are still abroad, and there are armed gangs about the country who will keep it in a state of unsettledness. The arrest of these men can only be effected by means of the Police.

As the Establishment sanctioned by Government has been completed, I have already directed Assistant Commissioner Lieutenant Andrew to proceed with a party of Police, consisting of one Havildar and twelve Burkundauzes, to Ralliong, and commence operations in the eastern portion of the District. For the information of His Honor I enclose a copy of my instructions to Lieutenant Andrew.

A Force of 100 Rank and File of the regular Troops is stationed there, and the Officer Commanding has orders to comply with any requisition that Lieutenant Andrew may make for an escort to accompany him on his expeditions, when a larger number of the Rebels are collected together than the Police Force under him can cope with.

A Police Force of similar strength as that at Ralliong has been sent to Barato to act under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, Commanding 44th Native Infantry, who is in Command of a Detachment in the Trans-Muntang District.

A third party will remain at Jowai to act in the west and south of the Jynteeah Hills.

Throughout the whole of the District there are but three villages of which none of the inhabitants have come in. These are Ralliong, Kya-Khallow, and Barato, and it is to these that the Police parties have been detached. The whole of Shilliong Muntang, the greater portion of Jowai, and Latoober, and several of the subordinate villages have given in their submission. Some of the inhabitants of Munsow are settled; and there are several others of that village, and of Shampoong and Jalong, who have also come in and settled, but in friendly villages for the sake of the protection that they find in them from the attacks and animosity of the Rebels.

The entire settlement of the District is now only a question of time; but to ensure its being effected as rapidly as possible Detachments have been stationed at Barato and Shillong Muntang; at Ralliong and Kya-Khallow, at Munsow and Nurteng; and in the south at Batow, Oomwee, and Padoo, so that there is no place within the Jynteeah Hills where the Rebels can take shelter which one or other of the Detachments may not reach in a single march.

I cannot conclude this Report without bringing to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor the assistance Mr. S. H. C. Tayler, the Collector of Sylhet, has afforded to the Troops engaged in keeping them supplied with rations. Mr. T. Smith shewed great activity in procuring boats and making other arrangements to assist a Column in its passage up the rapids of the Looba River, and afterwards in its march to Kya-Khallow; and also in arranging for the transit of supplies for the Troops from the Plains to the Head-Quarters of the District. I also beg to bring to the notice of His Honor the great assistance I have derived from Mr. Shadwell from his knowledge of the language and acquaintance with the people. He has accompanied me throughout my operations.

It is due to Major Rowlatt, late Deputy Commissioner, to add that he accompanied the Columns under Colonel Dunsford, C. B., and Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson in the early part of these operations. He attended me also to Barato on my first Expedition, and when I detached a Column to search the valley of the Muntang he volunteered to accompany and direct it.

Instructions for Lieutenant Andrew, Assistant Commissioner,—Camp Jowai, the 20th May 1862.

LIEUTENANT ANDREW will proceed to Ralliong with one Havildar and twelve Police Burkundauzes.

His duty will be to send the Policemen into the villages about the forest glens, or wherever they may hear of men and families having taken shelter, and endeavor to give them confidence so that they may return and occupy their villages.

All villages that may be re-occupied he will arrange to protect from the attack of the Rebels, either by locating Police in them, or, if necessary, Military Guards, or by directing either Policemen or Military Guards to pay them frequent visits.

If he should hear of large parties of Rebels being collected together, or attempting to form an organized defence, he will immediately communicate with the Officer Commanding the Detachment, and in concert with him endeavor to arrest them.

He will do all in his power to exercise a close supervision over his Police to prevent them from ill-treating and increasing the alarm of the people, or in any way abusing their official position.

He must warn the Policemen that they are not unnecessarily to expose themselves either to the fire of the Rebels, or to be taken Prisoners; they are to be very careful of their Arms.

Whenever Lieutenant Andrew, from intelligence he may receive, may consider that the occupation of another village, for one or more days, may be advisable, he will apply to the Officer Commanding the Detachment for an escort of suitable strength to be sent with him.

Lieutenant Andrew will keep a Diary of his proceedings, which he will forward to the Commissioner weekly. Whenever any event of importance takes place he will report specially.

(Sd.) ST. G. D. SHOWERS, *Brigadier-General.*

From E. H. LUSHINGTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 1051, dated the 6th June 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 29, dated the 22nd ultimo, reporting that active operations in the

Jynteeah Hills are at an end, and that the spirit of insurrection is subdued; and in reply to state that the Lieutenant-Governor has learnt with much satisfaction this result of your well planned proceedings, which have his entire approval.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the judicious arrangements made by you for the apprehension of the Chiefs and armed gangs still abroad will soon lead to the entire pacification of the District and the complete restoration of order and confidence.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to notice the favorable mention made by you of the services rendered by Messrs. Tayler, Smith, and Shadwell.

4. He also observes with satisfaction your acknowledgment of the services of Major Rowlatt, late Deputy Commissioner.

No. 1052.

COPY of the above, and of the letter to which it is a reply, forwarded for the information of the Government of India, in the Home Department.

No. 1053.

COPY of the above, and of the letter to which it is a reply, forwarded for the information of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Assam Division.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 193A., dated the 26th May 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division, to the Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 191A., dated the 26th May 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, a Distribution Statement of the Troops that

I propose to leave in the Jynteeah Hills during the rains, and a copy of instructions issued to the Commanders of Columns.

2. In my letter No. 150, dated 7th instant, I stated that I proposed sending a Detachment to Assaloo, the Civil Station of North Cachar, to defend that District from the incursions of the Rebels of Jynteeah, but I do not consider this measure now necessary. The insurrection is at an end; the Troops have been ordered into quarters for the rains; the inhabitants of the villages of Jynteeah bordering on North Cachar who, I had been led to think, had run across the River Kopili to plunder the villages on the other side, are now occupied with their cultivation; and as they will not be disturbed by the British Columns I do not anticipate that they will again enter North Cachar.

3. I have had a Map of the District drawn out from such calculations and observations as could be made by the march of our Detachments, and directed that a copy be sent to Captain Burne, Military Secretary, for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, who will observe the Columns are so distributed as to be within one day's march of every part of the District. The Police, on whom the settlement of the District now rests, so supported, will act with greater confidence, and by the end of the rains it is expected that all the Troops may be withdrawn but such as are to be permanently stationed in the District

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Distribution of Troops in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, Sylhet and Cachar.

Camp Jowai, 20th May 1862.

Corps.	Posts.	European Officers.	Native Officers.	Havildars.	Naicks.	Buglers.	Sepoys.	Remarks.
28th Native Infantry ...	Sick, absent ...	0	0	0	1	0	13	
Head-Quarter Wing at Gowhatty ...	To Assam ...	5	6	33	24	6	259	Includes Company from Barrackpore.
	Ralliong ...	2	4	5	8	4	100	
	Satongah ...	1	3	4	7	2	80	
Left Wing at Ralliong ...	Batao ...	0	2	2	5	2	50	
	Jowai ...	0	0	1	1	0	9	
	Sylhet, with baggage ...	0	0	1	0	0	8	
	Total ...	8	15	46	46	14	519	
33rd Native Infantry ...	Sick, absent ...	0	0	0	0	0	10	
	Sylhet ...	1	1	6	8	14	140	
Head-Quarter at Jowai ...	Munsow ...	0	1	3	3	0	30	
	Nurteng ...	0	1	3	3	0	30	
	Amwai ...	1	2	4	5	0	50	
	Myrung ...	0	0	1	2	0	12	
	Jowai ...	6	4	9	11	1	200	
	Total ...	8	9	26	32	15	472	
44th Native Infantry ...	Chasala ...	0	1	1	1	0	19	
	Lungye ...	0	0	1	1	0	19	
	Gowineghat ...	0	0	1	1	0	13	
Head-Quarter at Cherra Poonjee	Shilliong ..	0	0	1	1	0	12	
	Mahadeo ...	0	0	0	1	0	4	
	Nunklow ...	0	0	1	1	0	12	
	Cachar ...	1	3	5	7	2	140	To furnish Guard at Muneepore.
	Jynteeahpore ..	0	2	4	6	1	50	To furnish Guard at Moolagool.
	Barato & Shillong Muntang	1	4	8	10	4	180	
	Jowai ...	1	2	6	6	2	84	
	Cherra Poonjee	3	4	16	12	8	160	
	Total ...	6	16	44	47	17	693	

E. K. O. GILBERT, *Captain,*
Officiating Deputy Adjutant-General.

Memorandum of Instructions for Officers Commanding Detachments in the Jynteah Hills,—(No. 186A., dated Presidency Division, Head-Quarters, Camp Cherra Poonjee, the 26th May 1862.)

As active Military operations are at an end the Officer Commanding the District will direct the Coolies that have hitherto been kept up for Detachments to be discharged, retaining only such numbers as may be wanted, throughout the rains, for the transport of rations.

2. The Officer Commanding the District will arrange to lay in with each Detachment a supply of ghee, dal, salt, rice, and other articles of rations for the men that will not spoil by keeping, for at least a month, so that Coolies will be required for the transport of atta only, and of this the Commissariat Department must endeavor to send a supply for a week at one time. It will be necessary also to lay in a supply of dhan for the Coolies. This must be done in communication with the Civil Officer of the District, and supplies should be collected for a month.

3. When Detachments have occasion to move, which will only be done on the requisition of the Civil Officer, indents for Coolies must be made on him, as it is expected the country will be sufficiently settled for carriers to be obtained from the villages in the vicinity.

4. Officers Commanding Detachments will employ the Coolies who are not employed in transporting grain to their posts in such useful occupations as are not forbidden by religious or conventional prejudices, such as cutting wood and grass and stacking it, &c.

5. The Brigadier-General has requested that 100 hatchets and phowrahs may be sent to the Head-Quarters of the District, and the Officer Commanding is requested to distribute them to Detachments. These are to be kept in the Quarter Guards of Detachments to be served out as required, and on a march a fatigue party will be told off, among whom they will be distributed.

6. Whenever the weather admits of it, Officers Commanding Detachments are directed to march their men out from their posts for three or four miles and back again for exercise. They will also encourage their men in practising and amusing themselves in gymnastic exercises.

7. Officers Commanding Detachments are to house their men from the resources of the District. They are to apply to the Civil Officers

for assistance when necessary, and they are to be particularly careful that the floors of the men's huts are kept dry. The grass for bedding is to be constantly changed when new dry grass is to be obtained, and the huts are to be swept and aired daily when the weather admits of it. Whenever practicable bamboo platforms are to be made for the men to sleep on.

8. The Brigadier-General Commanding has directed Rum to be supplied to Detachments for the use of Seikhs and Goorkhas and all men who will receive it. This is to be served out gratis to the men after a hard day's fatigue duty, and once in three days after continuous rains.

9. To those men who do not receive Rum extra dry rations are to be served out after fatigue duties, and in wet weather spices and extra dal and ghee instead of Rum.

By Order,
(Signed) E. K. O. GILBERT, *Captain,*
Officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No 38, dated the 31st May 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, copy of my instructions to Captain B. W. D. Morton, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

Memorandum for the information of CAPTAIN MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(dated the 28th May 1862.)

ALL open opposition by the Rebels has ceased. All the inhabitants of Shilliong Muntang and several smaller villages, and the greater proportion of Jowai, Latoober, Batao, Lakadung, Nungtalong, Jullapet, and a few of Munsow, have come in and resumed their occupations. There are a few also of Shampoong and Jalong, and Munsow who have given in their submission, but they continue to reside in the large villages for protection. Ralliong and Barato are the only villages of which none of the former inhabitants have come in.

The British Columns have moved through every part of the country, and these places, *viz.*, Barato and the banks of the Mundriang River, where the Rebels were reported to have had their haunts closely searched; but since the first time I advanced upon Barato the British Columns have never been opposed, and no bodies larger than what might constitute a gang of Dacoits have ever been seen together. The spirit of the insurrection therefore may be considered at an end.

But most of the Rebels who have been proscribed are still abroad. They were influential men, whose friends and followers will for some time adhere to their fortunes. These men roam over the country, and they plunder travellers and villages that are not defended. Heretofore they endeavored to extend their influence by threatening to plunder and burn villages the inhabitants of which came in and settled in them, but they have latterly taken to murder single men; such means for preserving their power is a proof that their moral influence is at an end.

They have succeeded in murdering three men. These acts are raising up a strong feeling against them. Before I left Jowai the inhabitants of Shilliong Muntang and Nongba applied to be allowed to carry arms while they searched the Koorungs, or forest glens, for such as took shelter in the vicinity of their villages, and it may be expected that other villages will do the same. This feeling for the present must be allowed in order that each village may preserve peace and quiet around it, and I authorized each village to have a certain number of swords and bows and arrows, which should be kept by the Dolloye, and served out as required by parties who were going out, the Dolloye to be answerable that no improper use was made of the arms.

This practice of having arms kept by the Dolloye will have to be continued after peace and quiet in the District is restored. Wild beasts infest the country, and it will be necessary to allow the men to have arms that they may go out and destroy them.

No attempt has yet been made to induce the proscribed Rebels to give themselves up. It was necessary first to subdue the armed followers. As they must now feel they cannot successfully oppose the British Troops, and that they are not safe even in their inmost lurking places from the visits of these Detachments, attention may be turned to bringing them in. The lives of all might be guaranteed who have not been

guilty of cold blooded murder, but beyond this their surrender must be unconditional, and they must be referred to take their trial before the Special Commission.

The manner the Troops are distributed will be found to give them a complete control over the District. The position are as follows :—

In the Trans-Muntang District, extending over Shilliong Muntang, Barato, Hurwan, Nungjiriung, and the banks of the Mundriang River ... ... 180 Rank and File.

At Ralliong	100	„
„ Sotoongah	80	„
„ Munsow	30	„
„ Nurteng	30	„
„ Jowai Head-Quarters	(varies.)	
„ Batao and Lakadung	100	„
„ Amwai	50	„
„ Padoo	20	„

At Barato the Rebels are the most obstinate, and it may be accounted for by the extensive forests through the country in which they find shelter. After the first operations, by which the Rebels had been burnt out of their houses, they fled to these forests, and those that remain have their principal rendezvous here and in Kaklow Dolloye on the banks of the Mundriang. Some also are heard of in Nongfloot.

A party of Police has been ordered to Barato, and it would be advisable for a Civil Officer to proceed there to endeavor to bring in those who may wish to carry on their cultivation. It will be advisable for the Military to remain stationary, except when it may be necessary to move out to support the Police, or to protect any village to which the inhabitants may be returning to settle.

None of the inhabitants of Ralliong have yet come in, but the prospect of restoring order in that direction is more hopeful from there being extensive cultivation carried on there.

At Kaya Khullu, the principal village of Sotoongah, no inhabitant has come in, but Jullapet is settled, and there are many men to the east employed in their fields, who, on being visited by our Columns, gave themselves out to belong to Latoober. It is possible they may have taken the name of Latoober, though belonging to Rebel villages. For the

present the deception might be allowed to remain: they will come in as they find the larger villages are settled. The inhabitants of these places should be made use of to communicate with those who are carrying on their cultivation.

At Munsow the old Dolloye and six or seven families have re-settled themselves under the protection of the Guard that is posted there, but there are several families at Takinang, and others who proposed coming in have asked permission to go there.

Nurteng is a friendly village. Batoo and Lakadung have been settled under the active and able management of Lieutenant Walcott, who has commanded a Detachment in that direction.

Nongtalong has always been loyal, but a gang of Rebels made their appearance at Padoo lately and burnt the Guard-house. A party of twenty men was in consequence sent there to check their approaches.

The Head-Quarters of the District is at Jowai, and the inhabitants are all coming in.

No residents are settled at Shampoong and Jalong, but several have come in to Nurteng.

I think it possible from the experience we have of Nongjoongee that only a small portion of the villages that have been burned will be re-occupied.

The old inhabitants will settle in some of the larger villages that have not suffered.

In referring to the Map it will be observed that the Detachments are so posted that there is no village unoccupied in the Jynteeah Hills that may not be reached by one or other of our Detachments in a day; but I do not consider that it will be advisable to send our Troops to any village unless necessary. The presence of Soldiers only disturbs the inhabitants.

The work of the Police now begins, and the settlement of the District depends upon their intelligence and activity.

The Rebels have been sufficiently punished in the loss of houses and other property and grain, as well as of loss of life. The work of conciliation is now to be resorted to. The police must endeavor in every way to enter into communication with the people to induce them to return to their villages, and unconditional pardon may be offered to those who

are not proscribed, and who have not been guilty of murder in cold blood, but at the same time no anxiety must be shewn to induce them to come in. The sufferings and discomfort of the people in the forests will oblige them to come in. It is only a question of time: all that Government Officers have to do is to adhere steadily to the principle of action laid down for both the Troops and Civil Officers.

Mr. Smith has instructions to organize a Coolie Corps for the transport of the rations to Jowai from Jynteeahpore, and a second division will be required to carry it to the Out-posts. A large supply of the rations that will keep should be stored at Jowai, so that the Coolies from Jynteeahpore should have only the atta to carry.

The greatest precautions must be used in preserving the communications between the Head-Quarters of the District and the Out-posts during the rains. The rivers rise several feet in a short time, and it will be advisable to have stores of materials ready to re-build any bridges that may be carried away. Materials for making up temporary rafts should also be kept prepared. Munsow is the place where the Muntang should be bridged.

St. G. D. Showers, *Brigadier-General,*
Commissioner.

From the Hon'ble A. Eden, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Major W. Agnew, Judicial Commissioner in charge of the Commissioner's Office in Assam,—(No. 1179, dated the 14th June 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to forward, for your information, the accompanying copy of a letter No. 38, dated the 31st ultimo, from the Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, with its enclosure, containing the instructions of General Showers to Captain Morton, Deputy Commissioner of those Hills.

2. The instructions issued by General Showers have met with the Lieutenant-Governor's approval, and it is to be hoped that they will be carried into effect by Captain Morton in such a manner as to lead to the speedy pacification of the country. The Lieutenant-Governor considers

it to be an object of great importance that the Civil Officer in charge of the District should come to a full understanding with the Chiefs and Leaders as to the causes which led to their revolt; he should adopt immediate measures for removing any substantial grievance they may have had to complain of, and should take positive written engagements for their good behaviour in future.

3. Every endeavor should be made to induce the Chiefs who are still holding aloof to come in and surrender and to return to their ordinary occupations. A free pardon should be offered to all, except such of the prominent ringleaders of the rebellion as have been guilty of deliberate murder, on condition of their making submission and returning to their villages.

4. You are requested to report the earliest period at which the Special Commissions issued under Act XI. of 1857 may be withdrawn and the ordinary administration of the District restored.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor expects an early Report from the Commissioner and from the Civil Officer in charge of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills as to the settlement of that District and the system upon which its affairs in all Departments, Judicial, Revenue, and Police, should hereafter be administered.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 176A., dated the 21st May 1862.)

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division, to the Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 173A., dated the 21st May 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that I made over Command of the Troops in this District to Colonel Dunsford, c. b., this day, and that I propose to proceed to Shilliong and the adjoining localities to examine the country for the best site for a Sanatarium for British Troops.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills and Commanding Presidency Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 42, dated the 9th June 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, that I propose to-day to leave Cherra Poonjee to proceed on my tour of inspection to the Assam Frontier.

The Steamer *Adjai* left Gowhatty on the 5th, and it may be expected at Armangunge on the 12th. I am proceeding with the Head-Quarters and Wing of the 28th Native Infantry under the Command of Colonel Dunsford, c. b. We embark in country boats a little below Pundooah this afternoon and expect to reach Armangunge about the same time as the *Adjai*. In eleven days from that place we shall reach Gowhatty.

In my Memorandum drawn up for the information of Captain Morton, the Officiating Deputy Commissioner, I have stated in detail the position in which I left the Jynteeah District.

Since that time I have received reports of the Dolloye of Ramhye, who was considered one of the leading Rebels, having sent in his family and his brother is now out to communicate with him. His name was not among the proscribed; and Lieutenant Walcott has since reported that there is nothing in his conduct that has been brought to his notice that requires it should be. It may be expected therefore that he will now come and give in his submission. The southern part of the District may then be considered settled.

Since I left Jowai a gang of Rebels seized five men of Surmong who had come in and settled in their village. The Police obtained intelligence of the place to which they had taken their prisoners, and a party was sent out against them under the Command of Lieutenant Walcott. The Military arrangements to effect the capture of the Rebels were too limited. The Rebels were within only three hours march of Jowai, and Detachments should have been sent out to surround them. Lieutenant Walcott was put in Command of but thirty men. This Officer, who has done good service throughout these operations, and had shewn great energy and intelligence, did all that could be expected with his small Force. By his good arrangements he succeeded in surprising the Rebel gang, and effected the release of the Longdo and the other man whom

they had still retained as captives. Two Rebels were taken. A copy of Lieutenant Walcott's Report I have the honor to forward for the information of His Honor.

I beg to bring this operation to the notice of His Honor as the result of the first act of the Police since they have commenced their duties. Had it been properly taken advantage of, the whole party of Rebels would have been captured. The success, however, that has been obtained, is of importance.

I do not approve of the cultivators of Surmong and Latoobaree coming in to Jowai, a measure alluded to by Lieutenant Walcott. I have instructed Captain Morton accordingly, and measures will be taken to afford effectual protection to all villages that are settled.

I cannot conclude this Report without bringing to the notice of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor the ability that Lieutenant Walcott has displayed on every occasion for political duties, and to recommend that he should be employed in that capacity. I have not recommended it before on account of his useful Military services.

Copy of a letter from LIEUTENANT WALCOTT, Commanding a Detachment of the 33rd Native Infantry, dated Jowai, 5th June, to LIEUTENANT J. MAY, Adjutant of the Regiment.

SIR,

BY direction of Major E. H. Langmore, Commanding the Regiment, I have the honor to furnish you, for his information, with a written Report of operations of the Detachment (enumerated in the margin) of the Regiment which proceeded hence on the 3rd instant, under my Command, to act against the Rebels who were said to have carried off the Longdo, the two Songots, and another man, all belonging to Surmong.

1 Lieutenant.
1 Jemadar.
1 Havildar.
2 Naicks.
30 Sepoys.
Some Cossyah Police.

2. The party took the road leading down into the valley of the Muntadoo, which is least exposed to view from the heights to the north. It then followed the valley past the heights on which the village of Jalong is situated. East and north-east of that village the ground is

much broken with Koorungs, in which the underwood is dense and luxuriant. It was here the Rebels were said to be, and their scouts were visible on the ridges in the neighbourhood. When the position of the Rebels was pointed out by the guides, the party was on the road from Jowai to Ralliong, and the informer suggested that the party should move round to the north of the Koorungs in which the Rebels were, before attacking them. As their scouts had discovered the advance of the party, I thought it better not to move directly towards them, and the suggestion was adopted. The party followed the Ralliong road to the eastward to the point where the road from Latoobaree to Munsow crosses it and takes a north-easterly direction. I was in hopes the Rebels would defer their flight, supposing the party intended to go to Ralliong, which afterwards proved to be the case. On reaching the point just mentioned, as the nature of the ground did not admit of the party taking the direction of the Rebels without being seen by them and as it would have been inconvenient to have proceeded further east, the party now took the direction of Munsow along the road leading to that place. It turned out afterwards that the Rebels, who had been watching, from a height where they were assembled, the movements of the party, now thought that the party was going to Munsow, accounting to themselves for the Ralliong road being followed for some distance, by the supposition that the party had by mistake taken the wrong road. They still therefore delayed their flight. After advancing along the Munsow road for some distance the ground offered some facility for approaching the Rebels unseen. The party, therefore, now turned off the Munsow road and took their direction. When about 600 yards distant, however, the ground exposed the party to the view of the Rebels who were still in a body. A portion now went on as fast as possible, while the rest followed in support; but the Rebels dispersed, and only two men were captured in the glens they entered. They were unable to hurry off the Longda, however, as fast as they wished to go themselves and he fell into our hands. Of the three others who were in the hands of the Rebels two had been previously released when the party first appeared in sight, and the other was left behind at the same time as the Longdo.

3. Six small collections of huts were burnt in the neighbouring glens on the 3rd and 4th instant, and forty Coolie loads of unhusked *rice* and

"murrooa" were discovered in a secret store and sent in as soon as Coolies were procured from here. To prevent this being carried away on the night of the 3rd, the Detachment remained on the spot, the Police being sent to protect the village of Surmong that night as well as that of the 4th.

4. The Rebels are said to have belonged to Jalong, Jowai, and Munsow, and to have come from the neighbourhood of Nongfloot with the intention of inducing the people, who have come in, to re-join the Rebel cause. It is supposed the Jowai men moved southward along the valley of the Muntadoo, the Jalong people westward, and the Munsow people towards their own village. They numbered about 100, but had only two guns amongst them. It is the opinion of the Cossyahs I have talked to that they are too much dispersed to carry out their intention now, but the Longdo of Latoobaree says his people are afraid to remain in their village. The Surmong people are coming to live at Jowai, and will have completed the removal of their household furniture. To-day, they say, the women and children will sleep here, therefore in future they can go from here to fetch their stores of grain in the day time, some of the men only remaining to look after it. But the case of Latoobaree is different. The Surmong people can carry on their cultivation when living at Jowai; but if the Latoobaree people were to move to this for protection they would be a great distance from their cultivation; for, to my personal knowledge, their cultivation extends to the Mangdriung River, southward of the village itself, at least five hours journey from here. I therefore beg to suggest the Civil Officers of the District and the headmen of Latoobaree being communicated with, with the view of some arrangements being made for the protection of the people of that village who are now living in allegiance to Government.

5. The Jalong Rebels, who fled the day before yesterday, have expressed a desire to some Surmong people, they met with, to come in if their lives would be spared, and one Jalong man did come in on tho 3rd, on being called by the Cossyahs with me. He has gone to fetch his family from the neighbourhood of Nongba and has consented to come and live here. I told him to tell all his fellow villagers that all Cossyahs, except those proscribed, would be pardoned if they should come in, and gave him a Memorandum to that effect, as a piece of paper

would perhaps be accepted by his brethren as evidence of the message he bears having really come from an European Officer.

6. Before concluding this Report I beg to refer to a matter which, every day as the rainy season advances, is becoming more and more important. While on the expedition above recounted I saw many stacks of wood belonging to Jalong The nearest is about an hour's journey from here, and I beg to suggest that as much as will last the Troops here for the next three or four months may be sent for, should no better arrangement for obtaining firewood be very shortly devised.

From J. D. GORDON, ESQ., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Officiating Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 15T., dated Head-Quarters, Bhaugulpore, the 1st July 1862.)

SIR,

IN forwarding the accompanying copy of two letters* from Brigadier-General Showers, I am directed to say that, as that Officer has now completed the duties for which he was specially appointed, the Civil control of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills will revert to you from the date on which these instructions are received.

* No. 19, dated 9th June.
" 42, " 9th " with enclosure.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor proposes to review General Showers' proceedings as soon as he receives from him a final Report on them, and at the same time to express his views as to the future adminstration of the District. In the meanwhile it is the Lieutenant-Governor's wish that the intructions given by General Showers to Captain Morton may continue to be acted on, and that no pains should be spared to quiet the minds of the people and to organize the new Constabulary, so that, on the conclusion of the rains, the Detachments of Troops may be withdrawn from the villages and all appearance of Military occupation may cease.

3. The Commission issued to General Showers, Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, and Major Rowlatt on the 2nd April last, under the provisions of Act XI. of 1857, is hereby cancelled from the date on which these instructions are received at Cherra.

4. I am to request that a Return may be furnished in prescribed form of the trials held under the Commission and their result.

5. In conclusion I am desired to intimate that the Lieutenant-Governor has recommended Lieutenant Walcott for Civil employment in Assam in recognition of the services he has rendered under Brigadier-General Showers.

6. Copies of this letter have been sent to Brigadier-General Showers and Captain Morton.

From J. D. Gordon, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Brigadier General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 16T., dated Head Quarters, Bhaugulpore, the 1st July 1862.)

Sir,

With reference to your communications Nos. 19 and 42 of the 9th ultimo, I am directed to forward your information, the accompanying copy of a letter* this day addressed to the Commissioner of Assam, and at the same time to say that, though the Lieutenant-Governor defers a review of your proceedings as Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills until he receives your detailed Report, he cannot dispense with your services without bearing testimony to the remarkable zeal and ability with which you have conducted the operations entrusted to you to a satisfactory conclusion, and have laid the foundation of future peace and contentment in the Jynteeah Hills.

* No. 15T.

From J. D. Gordon, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Captain B. W. D. Morton, Deputy Commissioner in charge of Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 17T., dated Head-Quarters, Bhaugulpore, the 1st July 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to forward, for your information, the accompanying copy of letter* this day addressed to the Commissioner of Assam, and to request that you will carry on the duties of your office under that Officer's orders in the usual manner.

* No. 157.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(dated the 9th June 1862.)

Sir,

I have now the honor to submit, for the information of Government, my Report on the administration of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

As I have been so short a time at the head of the District I shall confine my remarks to the general principles on which the future system should be conducted. I shall begin with the Jynteeah Hills, as my experience has been obtained chiefly in that quarter.

I have already stated, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, my opinion of the causes which led to the insurrection. The non-interference system had been carried to the extreme. There were no signs apparent, in the interior of the District, of the administrative control of the British Government. The men in office, such as Dolloyes, may have felt it, but there was nothing to bring it home to the generality of the inhabitants.

I annex a Statement of the number of cases tried in the Cherra Poonjee Courts during the year 1861, from which it will be observed that there were but twenty-five cases of every description brought before the Local Officers, and that of these four were against Dolloyes; and the trial of these men, instead of establishing the jurisdiction of the British, would seem rather to irritate the people against what would be considered an interference. When, therefore, the Government levied the House and Income Tax their feelings broke out in open defiance.

On the first occasion they were soon quieted by the judicious conduct of the Civil Officer in charge of the District and the promptitude of the Officer in Command of the Troops. After the capture of one of the villages in revolt the people returned to their allegiance.

On that occasion the revolt was an impulse: on the present it has been a combined and systematic resistance.

Up to the present time there has been a mistaken opinion among the Jynteeah Tribe of the British Military power. In 1860, though the Troops reduced the insurrection at once, the impression of their strength was not permanent, as they attacked but one village and were removed as soon as quiet was restored.

That power has now been shewn throughout the District: our Columns have taken and destroyed all their stockades, and they have marched through every Poonjee and almost every valley and forest glen in the District. Every villager must now feel that superior numbers can be brought against them and that they cannot compete with disciplined Soldiers.

The true relations between the ruler and subject will now be understood, and the Government may proceed to legislate for the country without fear of opposition.

To enable the Lieutenant-Governor the better to decide on the principles on which the administration should be conducted I will describe briefly the state of the country.

It is in the rudest state. It is only within the last thirty years that human sacrifices have been abolished in their ceremonies, and this was only effected by the influence that the British Government exercised in their intercourse with the people. They can neither read nor write; an alphabet is unknown to them. Their institutions, arts, and manufactures all shew that they are hardly in advance of a savage state.

Their institutions are limited to marriages and laws of inheritance. In the former, the wife takes precedence of the husband, who, on his marriage, removes to the wife's house. The marriage tie is often dissolved. It is seldom that husband and wife live together without a divorce.

The laws of inheritance are peculiar. Its origin betrays the licentiousness or indiscriminate intercourse between the sexes that must have prevailed at the time the law was framed. The husband could not be sure that the child his wife bare him was his own, and the laws to secure the inheritance falling to the blood of the family decreed the heir to be the eldest son of his eldest sister. The sons of the husband, on the other hand, inherit in right of their mother if she be the eldest sister in the family.

There is besides a conventional practice relating to burials. It requires that the ashes of the man, though alienated when living from his village, shall be deposited after death in the burial place of his family.

Their religion consists in an undefined belief in a beneficent deity and a superstitious fear of malignant spirits. They offer no sacrifices to the former, but they endeavor to propitiate the latter by slaying a bullock, goat, fowl, or other animal at some sacred spot, the efficiency of

the sacrifice depending on the value of the offering. They have further a superstitious dread of a spot where an accident to human life has taken place. It leads to the sacrifice of some animal on the locality, which thenceforward becomes sacred.

Exclusive of the sacrifices they offer to demons, they have but one religious ceremonial. This is the War-dance, which is celebrated at a certain time annually. They have no prejudices. Their faith is open to the reception of any opinions which approve themselves to their conviction, and there is this further liberality of feeling among them that a change of religious profession in any member does not alienate from him the rest of the family.

Their arts are of the poorest description: they are confined to the erection of a hut and to the simplest labors of a carpenter and blacksmith. Their huts are a rude construction, formed of bamboo, planks of wood, and grass for thatch: there is not a nail or a piece of iron throughout the building: the planks form the walls, they are fastened to the upright posts in the interior with slips of bamboo, which they make into ligatures instead of rope: these slips are used throughout whenever fastenings are required. The houses have no windows, and the only openings are the entrance doors and doors of communication between the interior rooms. The passage for the smoke of the wood which they burn is effected by making a hole in the roof.

The skill of their carpenters and blacksmiths is confined to the construction of articles of domestic use, of the simplest household furniture, and of bows and arrows and shields: they use a sword, and the dhao, koodallee, and adze, but the iron part of these instruments is not the production of the Singtengs themselves, they are purchased from Nonkrem and other Poonjees in the Cossyah Hills where they are made.

The Singtengs have no manufactures: there is a coarse silk and cotton cloth used by them for clothing, but, like the implements of iron, it is imported from the Cossyah Hills.

Rice is the principal production of the country and it is grown exclusively for home consumption. With the exception of murrooa, an inferior kind of grain, it was the only grain *(sic)* cultivated in these Hills until the introduction of the potato. But even the potato now is not cultivated in any Poonjee that has not come into communication with Europeans.

Cotton is cultivated to a great extent in Nongfloot and other Districts on the banks of the River Kopili. The greater portion is carried to Assam by the cultivators themselves, and the remainder is purchased by the traders of Jowai and Amwai and exported to Jynteeahpore.

To conclude the account of this people as a community it may be added that they live together in large villages, but this has not had the effect of introducing social intercourse among them, nor of extending their trade, nor improving their inventions in arts and manufactures.

The Government of the country showed the same rude and ignorant state.

No tribute or tax was paid to the Ruler. He received certain dues, and each village had in turn to cultivate the lands of the Rajah and to supply attendants and servants: this formed his Revenue from his Hill territories.

He was the nominal Chief of the State, but the real power was possessed by the Dolloyes. These Officers were at the head of the Civil, Criminal, and Police Establishments of their Districts. The village Officers were under them, and with such powers they were generally the real Heads of the Government. Shackled by such a powerful and influential body of men, the Rajah, "Indro Sing," threw up his Government for the handsome pension that was granted to him.

The British Government, on the transfer of the District to their authority, continued the administration as it had been conducted by the former Government. Until the receipt of the House Tax, which was very trifling, they had never received any revenue from the Jynteeah Tribes, nor is it advisable they should receive any now. There is no institution or establishment in the country creative of expense, or by which the inhabitants are benefitted, which justifies the imposition of a tax. They are too ignorant and savage to understand the meaning of it, and they are too poor to bear it. The general rules that are applicable to the wealthier and more advanced Provinces of the Empire are not adapted for this uncivilized race, and they should not be applied to them.

The Income Tax will not affect the District, as there is not a man who has the property that will come under its provisions; but notwithstanding I would recommend that the Income Tax be abolished by law

in the District. I should have recommended the abolition of the House Tax also; but in consequence of the revolt it is necessary it should be retained, and it may be kept for the future as a royalty.

Hereafter as trade advances and improvements are introduced, taxes to cover the expenses of such improvements might be laid down in some indirect form, such as tolls on roads and bridges, which the people use and feel the advantage of; and as their trade is further increased and extends to Districts which derive assistance from the institutions of the Government a duty on imports might be levied.

The extreme simplicity of the old Native constitution has been preserved by the British in their administration of the country, the authority of the Rajah being replaced by that of the Officer in charge of the District.

A question has arisen whether the Officer to administer the country should be the Officer in Military Command and invested with the Civil charge of the District, or purely a Civil Officer. I am of opinion he should be purely a Civil Officer.

I can see no advantage in investing a Military Officer with Civil powers when his duties will be purely of a Civil character; and, with reference to his Military position, there are objections to his being invested with those powers.

If an Officer be invested with the double authority it will be necessary to make him independent of the Commander-in-Chief. To this there would always be an objection. It is seldom that an Officer would be found who possessed the necessary qualifications to carry on both duties; and even if such should be found, it is probable the duties of the Civil administration would lead him to consider his Military duties of secondary importance, and he might neglect the drill and discipline of his Military Force.

On extraordinary occasions, as on the first annexation of a Province inhabited by a wild and savage race, or in exigencies when active and energetic proceedings are wanted, the double authority may undoubtedly with advantage be conferred on the same person. But these extraordinary powers will not in future be required for the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills. They have been a British Province for years, and the objects on which the Superintendent will in future have to exercise his abilities, will be altogether of a Civil character. It will be better, therefore, as in

the case of the former Political Agencies of Simla, Deyrah Dhoon, and Kemaon, that the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills be absorbed into the Civil Administration.

The Officer to conduct the administration should be designated the Superintendent. Eventually the District should be placed under the Commissionership of Assam or Dacca; but at the present time, in consequence of the difficulty of communication with the Plains both towards Assam and Sylhet, and until that communication is rendered more regular and secure, the Superintendent should be independent of a Civil superior. There should be no appeals against his decisions.

This independence is further necessary at the present time in consequence of arrangements having to be made for the adjustment of the differences that exist between Rajahs and their subjects of some of the semi-dependent States.

Under the Superintendent there should be an Assistant to be stationed at Jowai, and to have charge of the Jynteeah Hills.

If the Civil Offices be hereafter moved to " Yeodo " a Moonsiff would be at first required to carry on the Civil duties at Cherra Poonjee. The Office might probably be abolished when the Offices were fully established at " Yeodo. "

The Political duties could be carried on as well at the new Station as at Cherra Poonjee.

The Native element of the Government I would maintain, with but slight changes, as heretofore.

The Dolloyes are the Head of this Native element. This office should continue to be held for three years according to the Rules now in force, but the appointment, instead of being vacated at the end of that time, should only be re-considered, as recommended by the late Lieutenant-Governor, except in the event of either the Superintendent in charge of the District or the village community being dissatisfied, when a new election should be ordered.

The jurisdiction of the Dolloye to remain as at present, to try all cases within a certain amount, and to levy fines as has heretofore been done. No appeals to be allowed from his decision. If malversation should be proved against him he should be summarily dismissed.

At present the Dolloyes, as regards letters, are as ignorant as the rest of the villagers. Arrangements should be introduced to encourage them to learn to read and write. For this purpose it might be ruled that, when a Dolloye can record his own decisions, he should have higher powers conferred on him. These might be further extended from time to time till he is vested with the jurisdiction of a Moonsiff or Sudder Ameen.

He should further be at the head of the Police with Sungots, Bashans, and Manjees to assist him in the principal village, and one or two Sungots in each subordinate village according to the number of houses. He should be required to send in daily Reports to the Assistant in charge of the Division by a Sungot or other village Peadah.

The amount the Dolloyes realize from their village lands is all the pay they should receive. Hereafter when they qualify themselves for the exercise of the powers of Sudder Ameen it may be a question with the Government of the day whether a Government salary be not granted them.

The people as yet do not understand the character and use of a Police. The openness of their actions renders the establishment of an organized Police unnecessary. There is very little crime among them, and when instances of crime do occur the activity and vigilance of the village Officials, however indolent, would always enable them to arrest the culprit.

It is possible the Dolloye might collude with the people, and he might falsify or withhold reports, but I would bear all this. It is better to commence with a system of confidence and to secure the integrity of Officers by means of a moral influence, than by the institution of checks and restrictions. When a Dolloye is convicted in any kind of fraud or deception he should be dismissed from his office.

Mr. Allen, in his Report, recommends that the office of Pathor should be abolished. I would retain him. He is simply the Assistant to the Dolloye, and exercises no independent power.

There are occasions when the Dolloye is obliged to leave the village to meet, for instance, the Commissoner or Deputy Commissoner, and when he supplies a large number of Coolies he accompanies the party that employ them. At such time an acting Dolloye will be wanted, and the Pathor would be fitter to perform the duties than a person elected

for the time. Inconvenience might attend the appointment of one who was to hold it but for a time and who might be opposed to the Dolloye

In large villages, where the Dollóye does not reside, the Lungdo exercises Judicial authority in minor cases. This authority should be continued: the Lungdo might at the same time be required to act as the superior Police Officer in the village, and to send his Reports by the Sungot or other village Peadah to the Dolloye.

The number of Sungots, Bashans, Manjees, and other village petty Officials to be fixed by the Dolloye and approved of by the Superintendent under the recommendation of the Assistant.

The transfer of the Police would seem to confer greater power and responsibility on the Dolloyes and village Officers, but it is in effect what they possessed before.

With regard to the District it has been before stated that the Jynteeah Tribe cultivate Cotton in Nongfloot and on the banks of the Kopili River. These Hills abound in lime-stone quarries, and coal mines, but they are worked by European speculators alone. The people themselves do not engage in the trade. Those in the vicinity work the quarries and mines as laborers, but they never enter into the speculation as principals.

The people are generally idle. It is only during the cultivating season for the rice crops and at the harvest that they have any occupation. From the manner they work at these there is evidently energy and application among them, and this might be brought into action if there was any other object or demand, which, by offering an immediate return, would rouse them to work.

A Sanatarium at some place in their vicinity would serve this purpose. If there were a regular demand it might be expected they would supply potatos, firewood, rough planks, bamboos at once; and hereafter they would probably cultivate vegetables, wheat, and any other grain that might be required.

I would recommend that Government should encourage, by every available means, the formation of a Station in some agreeable locality of easy access, which would attract to it European Settlers and Invalids. Hereafter when the District becomes annexed to some Commissioner's Division the Sudder Station of the Division should be in these Hills. The Commissioner's Office and Establishments would attract trade and population and call out more rapidly the resources of the District.

The last subject connected with the Jynteeah Hills which it remains for me to notice is the establishment of Schools among the Singtengs. They have no prejudice against receiving from European Teachers, either secular or religious instruction. Their feelings are free and open, and they are prepared to learn either through the medium of the Bengalee or the Roman character.

A Welsh Presbyterian Mission has been established here for some years, and the present Minister in charge of the Mission has gained completely the confidence of all the villagers. He goes freely among them, and is received every where with kindness and good-will. He understands their character and the extent of instruction that should be given them. There are few men who, at the present time, are better adapted to be entrusted with the grant-in-aid that Government may be induced to give for educational objects.

I beg to annex a list of Poonjces in which Schools could be established, and the cost of each, which has been furnished me by Mr. Jones. The whole amount asked for might be sanctioned. Mr. Jones' exertions would, I am confident, effect a great improvement in the character and intelligence of the inhabitants.

A contingent allowance should be sanctioned, on application, for the purchase of implements for industrial pursuits, such as would be useful in domestic life, and which laborers would be willing to work with. From the want of implements great labor is required to cut the roughest planks. Only two planks are obtained from the finest oak. A pit saw is an implement which they would at once feel the advantage of and which they would gladly use.

The Schools established by Mr. Jones teach the pupils but the first rudiments of learning—reading, writing, and arithmetic. It is taught in their own language in the Roman character, and will serve for those only who have no dealings or intercourse out of their own village or illaqua. As a medium of general instruction there are many objections against it, but for the Singtengs it will be of use, as they who attend Mr. Jones' School would probably attend no other.

For those who have transactions in other Districts Bengalee Schools will be required, and I would recommend the Superintendent should be called on to submit a Statement of the number of Schools that might be established with the probability of their being attended. With this

should be forwarded the names of the villages in which the Schools should be formed, with the Establishment for each and cost of building School-rooms and supplying books, &c., and the implements required for instruction in industrial pursuits.

I have had so little experience of the Cossyah Hills, properly so called, that I will not attempt to submit any remarks regarding the details of the administration. This subject has been treated at great length by Mr. Allen in his Report on the District of the 14th October 1858.

The administration of the dependent States is conducted on the same general principles as that of the Dolloyeship of the Jynteeah State. They are under their own Sirdars and elders, who have jurisdiction in all Civil and Criminal cases between their own people. All cases in which British subjects are concerned are taken before the Civil Courts at Cherra Poonjee.

In the semi-dependent States the position in which the Gooroning Rajah is placed is most objectionable. He is independent as regards his own jurisdiction over his own subjects, but he has not the means of maintaining his authority over them. A village may object to his jurisdiction and refuse to pay up the Revenue due; but he is unable to enforce the payment from want of Troops. He cannot keep up a standing armed Force; his Revenues will not allow of this; and he is under the necessity of applying to the Civil Officers of the District to assist him in his difficulties.

The recusant villagers, on the other hand, when dissatisfied with the administration of the Rajah, appeal to the Local Officers, and declare their wish to be brought under British Rule. In both cases British Officers rightly decline to interfere.

Two instances of this have occurred lately: one during my own short administration of the District in the Cherra Poonjee State; the other in Khyrim.

It is certainly not desirable to interfere in the jurisdiction of Native States; but these States are all small: without a disciplined Force, their attempts to coerce a village in rebellion would occasion a tedious and protracted warfare. Unless the British Government interfered to preserve the subordination of the villages of semi-dependent Chiefs, the country would be in a constantly disturbed state. As it is therefore necessary for the Local Officers to interfere at all it is better that they

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should do it altogether, and adjudicate as a rule in the disputes between the Rajahs and their subjects.

General rules, formed from existing treaties, should be drawn up for the guidance of the Local Officers. They should define the relations between Native States and the paramount power, so that there may be no doubt as to the nature of those relations and the degree of interference that it is proper for Local Officers to exercise. Rajahs have already been forbidden to send their armed followers through the country; this should be strictly enforced; but the Native Chiefs must be allowed to keep up in each village a certain number of armed men, which should be defined by the Superintendent. They are necessary for the defence of the village against plunderers, and against the wild animals that prowl about in the vicinity for cattle and other prey.

On my assuming the office of Commissioner I found an appeal from Messrs. Inglis and Company against the decision of the Deputy Commissioner in a suit that was instituted by them against the Cherra Rajah for assault and plunder of their property in the orange groves of Byrung Poonjee. As I was holding the office of Commissioner as a temporary arrangement, and for carrying out measures not connected with the ordinary administration of the District, I did not consider it desirable that I should interfere in the decision of the case; but I recorded my opinion that, as far as related to the Civil character of the appeal, I coincided with the Deputy Commissioner; but that I differed with him with regard to the nature of the assault committed by the armed retainers of the Rajah, which was unjustifiable.

This should now be taken up by the Superintendent; and I am of opinion that Government should resume its right to Byrung Poonjee. The late Mr. David Scott annexed this District on the death of the last Rajah Sookh Sing, but, as a temporary arrangement, made over the management of it to the Rajah of Cherra Poonjee. As the Rajah has abused his authority there is no longer any necessity that he should be allowed to retain possession of it.

Before concluding the subject of the Cossyah Hills I beg to call the attention of Government to the valuable coal and iron mines and extensive lime quarries that are found in them, and to the advantage of working these valuable productions. The first step towards this would be the formation of cart roads in those parts of the District where

these productions are found in the greatest abundance, care being taken that they should lead down to places from which there is water conveyance throughout the year. The expense incurred in constructing these roads would be repaid by the increased amount for which the mines and quarries would rent.

I beg particularly to call the attention of Government to the superior quality of coal in the mines of Cherra Poonjee. The expenditure of this coal in the Government Steamers is in the proportion of nine to thirteen of the Burdwan coal.

A Geological Surveyor should be deputed to report on the extent of these mines, and what quantity of coal they might be expected to supply.

Further, a Report should be called for from the District Officer as to the amount it would cost at Dacca, Koolna, and at the intermediate Coaling Stations of the Government and other Steamers between the latter place and Rajmehal. If a cart road were available for the transit of it from the mines at Cherra Poonjee to Pundooah or Companygunge, there would be a great saving to Government in supplying their Steam Vessels with this coal. It is probable the coal might be landed at Dacca at 3 annas per maund. The inferior Burdwan coal costs more than three times that amount.

Before commencing upon the formation of a road, a new treaty should be formed with the Rajah of Cherra Poonjee for the right of property in the coal mines : at present the Government pay 1 Rupee per 100 maunds of coal.

I have alluded only to the transit of coal, iron, and lime-stone ; but these Hills are full of mineral productions and other resources, which would be worked if a good road were formed to a sure means of water transit.

A Report on the administration of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills would not be complete without some reference to the Garrow Hills and North Cachar. They form the eastern and western boundaries of this District, and, from contiguity and similarity of position, would appear properly to belong to it.

With respect to the Garrow Hills nothing is known, either of the country or its inhabitants, by the Cossyahs. There is no intercourse of any kind between the two classes. At the present time the transfer of the Garrow Hills to the Political control of the Superintendent of

the Cossyah Hills would be premature. The Garrow Hill Tribes are considered among the most intractable of the savages bordering on the banks of the Berhampooter. The only intercourse they have with the inhabitants of the British Provinces is at the markets held at the foot of the Hills under the authority of the Local Officer at Gowalparrah; communication with the Tribe should, therefore, continue under his direction.

It would be desirable if the Superintendent of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills could establish markets on his Frontier for the purpose of encouraging traffic with the Tribe.

There is the same absence of intercourse between the inhabitants of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills and North Cachar.

Nothing is known of North Cachar on this side of the Kopili. I marched twice towards the banks of that river with the intention of entering into communication with the Civil Officer at Assaloo, but no one could inform me of the route to that place, at what point I should cross the Kopili, and what distance it was from that river. All they could tell me was that the route lay through a dense jungle of a malarious character.

It is most accessible from the direction of Cachar. This seems to be the only and certainly the best approach to it, and Assaloo, the principal Station, which is situated on the border of Toolaram's country, is only five common, or three forced marches from the Sudder Station.

The greater portion of the Tribes that inhabit the District, the Hurae and Parbuttia Cacharees and Kookies, are more nearly allied by race to those of Cachar Proper. The tract of land formerly known as Toolaram's country, one of the Pergunnahs of North Cachar, on the other hand, is contiguous to Nowgong. North Cachar, therefore, is, at the present time, more nearly connected with one of these two Districts, and it is better it should continue subordinate to one of them than be transferred to the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills. I would suggest that it should be divided, and Toolaram's country placed under Nowgong, and the remaining portion of the District under Cachar. Each Division should have an Extra Assistant, with a good Constabulary. The Sub-Division of the District, as suggested, with a Constabulary under an active European Officer, would, I am of opinion,

check the raids of the Angamee Nagas into Nowgong, and it might lead also to these hitherto unknown Pergunnahs being more frequented

Statement of Cases tried in the Cherra Poonjee Courts during the Year 1861.

NATURE OF SUITS.	Total number of Suits tried.	Suits in which Sintengs were parties.	REMARKS.
Civil Suits	49	4	
Criminal Suits ...	56	6	
Agency Suits... ...	20	13*	* Two of these cases were against Dolloyes.
Miscellaneous Suits...	181	2†	† Ditto ditto.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 465, dated the 9th June 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, a copy of instructions I have forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner of this District, and I beg to call His Honor's attention to the subject of arming a portion of the inhabitants of each village for the purpose of self-defence.

Two instances, since I left Jowai, of men having been seized in these villages by the Rebels have occurred. The Rebels can effect these acts with impunity, as the villages that are settled have been deprived of their arms, and the inhabitants are prevented from carrying them. The disarming Act should be so far relaxed as to allow a portion of every village to supply themselves with swords, shields, bows, and arrows to defend themselves against these attacks of the Rebels.

The men who are so armed should be formed into an organized body, and it might be made the foundation of a Village Police which hereafter may be useful. At the present time it will have a moral effect

against the Rebels, and it will save our Troops from much harassing duty in protecting the villages that are settled.

Memorandum by BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding the Presidency Division, for Captain MORTON,—(dated the 9th June 1862.)

A REPORT has been called for from Mr. Smith, in charge of Jowai, for a statement of the landed property of the proscribed Rebels. I am of opinion that the orders for the confiscation should be reserved until the Rebels are captured, or until they come in, when the measure of confiscation will be included in the sentence that may be passed upon them.

A Report will be forwarded to Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson from Lieutenant Walcott of an attack made upon a gang of Rebels who had seized five of the inhabitants of Surmong. The attack was made in consequence of a report brought in by the Police. This is the first act of the Police since it commenced its duties, and the correctness of the intelligence thus obtained is satisfactory.

Lieutenant Walcott alluded to the inhabitants of Surmong coming in to take shelter at Jowai. I am of opinion that this is not desirable. It is more necessary to extend the number of the settled villages than to reduce them. Application should, therefore, be made to Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson for Guards to be posted at those villages which require protection.

At the same time I recommend that a portion of every village should be armed. The arms should be put into the hands of those men only who are willing to use them, and they should be organized into a body and be prepared to defend themselves. They might take their arms into the fields when they go to their cultivation, but they should assume some distinctive mark by which they can be recognized by the Soldiers. Parties of these men might accompany the Troops when it is necessary to send them out on any operation.

The arrest of men in friendly villages by the Rebels will rouse the people against them. This feeling will be of advantage in inducing them to give information of the arrival of Rebels in any place and in forming a sort of armed Militia to oppose gangs of them.

There is a report that the Rebels have proceeded to the south-west and taken away seventy or ninety loyal subjects of Aongbarai or Lamin. This has not been confirmed; but should it prove to be true it is in consequence of the want of exertion on the part of the Khyrim Rajah in not preserving the integrity of his territories against the Rebels. No Troops have heretofore been posted in his territories, as it was considered he would defend them himself.

The Khyrim Rajah is now with Captain Morton, and it is hoped he will be more active, and that his activity will be seen in the effectual removal of all Rebels from his territories and of all who are seeking shelter there. If he should continue as lukewarm as he has hitherto been, his conduct should be brought to the notice of Government.

If no assistance can be expected from him in keeping his territories free from Rebels a Detachment of Troops should be posted at, or in the vicinity of Pooroing to seek them.

I consider that the services of Mr. Shadwell can be better employed on the disturbed quarter, and I would recommend that he be sent either to Shillong Muntang or Pooriong to communicate with the Rebels in that quarter. In this case provision must be made for carrying on the current duties of the Office at Cherra Poonjee. If Lieutenant Andrew should be unable to remain at Raliong he might be sent into Cherra.

From J. D. Gordon, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 48T., dated Head-Quarters, Bhaugulpore, the 8th July 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Brigadier-General Showers' letter No. 45, dated the 9th ultimo, submitting for approval a copy of the instructions issued to you on the subject of arming some of the villages for self-defence against the incursions of Rebels.

2. In reply I am instructed to state that you should exercise your discretion in carrying out such a measure under such organization in connection with the Police as you may think expedient.

No. 49T.

Copy forwarded to the Commissioner of Assam for information.

From CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Second Class, in charge of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(dated the 19th June 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information and orders of Government, a Report on the present state of the Jynteeah Hills, to the charge of which I have been lately appointed.

2. I reported to General Showers, C. B., my arrival at Cherra Poonjee on the 30th of last month, and in pursuance of the General's instructions started for the Jynteeah Hills on the 2nd of the current month. I proceeded *viâ* Shillong and Nongkrem to the Head-Quarters of the Troops at Jowai Poonjee. I was detained at Jowai Poonjee three days in making arrangements for the transport of supplies. I subsequently visited Nurteng, Munsow, Shillong Muntang, and Barratto. I then returned to this Station (Cossyah Hills) by Nurteng and Pombriong.

3. My object in adopting this route was to ascertain the feelings of the people in Nurteng, Nongjoongee, and Nungba (supposed to be friendly Districts) and should the same prove favorable to make use of the Dolloyes, or Headmen, in bringing in the peaceably disposed in the adjoining Districts of Munsow, Shillong Muntang, and Raliong. The disaffected, I have found, exercise too much influence to admit as yet of any success in such a line of policy.

4. By a letter from General Showers, C. B., to the Under-Secretary, Government of Bengal, No. 29, dated the 22nd ultimo, with a copy of which I was furnished, it appears that he was of opinion that the spirit of the insurrection had been subdued. The Columns under General Showers, C. B., I learn from the same letter, had traversed every village and forest glen, and the Rebels had accordingly suffered severely in the loss of houses, grain, and other property. It is, however, stated that, owing to the shelter afforded by mountains and thick forests, the Rebels had been able to elude the Troops.

5. I much regret to say that although the Rebels appear to have been convinced of the hopelessness of their contending in organised bodies with disciplined Troops in fair fight, and though they have doubtless received, as they richly deserved, punishment in the loss of houses, grain, and cattle, recent events prove that the spirit of the insurrection is not yet subdued.

6. Report states that there are at least 2,000 men yet in arms. These not only shew no inclination to come in, but detached parties of them lose no opportunity of harassing the Troops whenever they can do so with impunity. The reports received on the 6th of this month from the Raliong District shew that there was then no prospect of the Rebels submitting, and that the escorts going to and coming from that out-post were fired into. Owing to my Dâks having miscarried I have received no later intelligence from that part of the country, but my own experience, and news from Jowai, dated the 14th June, convince me that we cannot expect the settlement of the country before next cold weather.

7. Colonel Richardson, in a letter dated the 14th June, informs me of a most unhappy disaster which befell a Detachment of the 33rd Native Infantry near Munsow. It appears that a party of some ten or twelve men of that Regiment, who were escorting Coolies, were taken unawares by some thirty Rebels. Eight Sepoys were killed on the spot, and one dangerously wounded.* Two Coolies are also said to have been killed. The Rebels got clear off with seven muskets and the ammunition of the men who had been killed.

* Since dead.

On my road to Nurteng, on the 16th instant, I observed in the (supposed friendly) Village of Nongjoongcee several armed men. They appeared to have been marketing, and as I understood from General Showers that it was advisable for the present to try a conciliatory policy, I allowed them to proceed unmolested.

I had not proceeded above a 100 yards when the Rebels, for so they were, opened fire upon me with arrows. A volley dispersed them to the adjoining deep jungles, whither I did not deem it prudent to follow them with my small escort. The latest reports I have received from the Southern and South-Eastern portions of the Hills clearly shew that the animus and confidence of the Rebels are as yet little abated.

8. This brings me to another important point, and that is the present disposition of the Troops. I confess that I feel the greatest diffidence in approaching this subject. This disposition was effected by General Showers, C. B., and I should be very sorry, indeed, if it was for a moment thought that I was dissatisfied with the military arrangements made by an Officer of so great experience. But I cannot conceal from

myself, and I therefore deem it my duty to bring to the notice of Government that we are threatened with difficulties which did not present themselves during the General's stay in these Hills.

9. On arrival at Jowai Poonjee I found the Commissariat Depôt literally empty. The Magistrate of Sylhet had reported his inability to secure Coolies for the transport of provisions from Jynteeahpore, and General Showers, C. B., had directed Mr. Smith, of the Civil Service, on deputation at Jowai Poonjee, to use his best endeavours for the establishment of a Cooley Corps for this purpose. Mr. Smith, who returned to Jowai the day before I left, informed me that the Dolloyes (Headmen) of Amwai and the neighbouring District, had engaged to supply him with 160 men, provided they were employed only between Jyneeahpore and Jowai and were paid a monthly wage of Rupees 7 each.

I futher wrote to the Magistrate of Sylhet explaining to him that to be on the safe side it was absolutely necessary to have a month's provisions at Jowai, and begged him, if his instructions prevented him from impressing labor for this purpose, to obtain the co-operation of the Sylhet Tea Planters.

10. I left Jowai with the hope that transport arrangements would be speedily organised. I much regret to learn, however, that the Amwai Coolies, on whom I chiefly relied, have been greatly alarmed at the news of the disaster referred to in my 7th paragraph, and are ready to desert.

On these Coolies, as I have explained, depends the supply at present of provisions at Jowai.

A more formidable difficulty presents itself with regard to provisioning some of the out-posts.

If by any mishap any of the Coolies at present employed by the Officers Commanding the Guards stationed at Barratto, Munsow, Raliong, and Satoonga are cut up, I have no hesitation in expressing my belief that all the other Coolies will desert. The Troops at those outposts would then have to march into Jowai after having destroyed such baggage as they could not bring with them. Such a retreat would, I think, be attended with greater loss of prestige than the withdrawal of the Guards I have mentioned to less distant Stations.

11. Besides securing an efficient military occupation of the country, I believe that General Showers, C. B., had, in the present disposition of Troops, two political objects in view. The one, that the presence of

Troops would induce the well-disposed to place themselves under their protection; the other, that the several posts being secured the war party amongst the Rebels would be starved out. The Villagers in the neighbourhood of Barratto, Munsow, Raliong, and Satoonga have not hitherto made an effort to return to their former haunts, and I am credibly informed that this is owing to the power the Chiefs still at large exercise.

12. I believe that by removing the Guards at the abovementioned posts to the neutral, if not friendly, Districts of Nurteng, Nongjoongee, and Nungba, the Rebels would find it difficult to draw provisions (as they undoubtedly, to some extent, do at present) from that neighbourhood. The Guards on the other hand, whilst provisions lasted at Jowai, could be more easily supplied, and, in the event of a temporary failure at the main Depôt could be supported from the resources of the District in question. The presence of Guards in those Districts would, I am of opinion, secure the allegiance of the subordinate villages, which, as matters are, would be likely to turn against us on affairs taking an unfavorable turn in any other portion of the Jynteeah Hills.

13. The only argument that occurs to me against the withdrawal of the Guards in question would be that the Rebel Chiefs might gain an increased confidence, and would probably do their best to stockade the positions at present held by the Troops. By keeping up a system of strong patrols this might, I think, be averted.

14. I have thought it advisable to bring to the notice of Government the present state of a portion of the District of which I have lately assumed charge. I have not concealed my belief that the Rebels will remain out for the better part of the current year, and that it will probably be found necessary to make some alteration in the disposition of the Troops. The latter is for the most part a military question, and I shall submit a further Report after I have consulted Colonel Richardson, Commanding in Jynteeah. I intended to have gone in to Cherra, but shall now proceed to Jowai, where my presence appears most in requisition.

15. For the present, I beg to suggest that order should be sent (by Telegram to Dacca and thence by Dâk to Sylhet) to the Magistrate of Sylhet, directing him to impress labor, if necessary, at double rates of

hire, for the transport of one month's provisions from Jynteeahpore to Jowai Poonjee.

I have informed Mr. Smith, B. C. S., that, until the Commissariat Department can effect more economical arrangements, the system of paying the Coolies a monthly wage of Rupees (7) seven must be introduced. I beg that orders may be passed to the Commissariat to adjust any advances on this account made from the Cherra Treasury.

16. I have the honor to enclose a rough Sketch illustrating the position of the several places referred to in my letters.

From H. BELL, ESQ., Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 1561, dated the 4th July 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 19th ultimo, reporting on the present state of the Jynteeah Hills, and in reply to state that, in compliance with the suggestion made in your 15th paragraph, orders have been issued by Telegram to the Commissioner of Dacca to direct the Magistrate of Sylhet to secure the services of a body of Coolies for the transport of provisions from Jynteeahpore to Jowai Poonjee by offering them such remunerative rates of pay as will induce them to enter the service and remain in it as long as they are required. The Magistrate should not press Coolies if that can be avoided.

2. A copy of your letter has been forwarded for the information of Brigadier-General Showers, C. B., and I am to request that in future you will send to that Officer a copy of all communications which you may make to Government direct.

No. 1562.

Copy of the above, and of the one to which it is a reply, forwarded to Brigadier-General Showers, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills for information, and for such action as he may consider it necessary to take with reference to the state of things reported by Captain Morton.

No. 1563.

EXTRACT (paragraph 1) forwarded to the Commissioner of Dacca for information and guidance.

No. 1564.

EXTRACT (paragraph 1) forwarded to the Magistrate of Sylhet direct for information and guidance.

From J. D. GORDON, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Magistrate of Sylhet,—(No. 22T., dated the 6th July 1862.)

SIR,

THE Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills has represented that he is in urgent need of Coolies to carry provisions for the Troops from Jynteeahpore to Jowai Poonjee.

2. You will already have received instructions from Government, through the Commissioner of Dacca, for raising a Coolie Corps for the service required by Captain Morton. Those instructions authorize you to entertain Coolies at whatever rates may be necessary to secure their services, and you are directed to abstain from impressing labor *if such a course can be avoided.*

3. Under these circumstances the Lieutenant-Governor desires me to say that he will hold you responsible for any failure in the carriage of supplies to Jowai and the out-post, owing to the want of Coolies.

4. You should give every possible assistance to any Officer who may be deputed by Colonel Richardson or Captain Morton to organize a Coolie Corps, should such a step be considered advisable.

No. 23T.

COPY forwarded to the Commissioner of Dacca for information.

From J. D. GORDON, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 24T., dated Head-Quarters, Bhaugulpore, the 6th July 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE laid before the Lieutenant-Governor your Report on the present state of the Jynteeah Hills, dated 19th ultimo, and am directed to communicate to you the following instructions.

2. The Magistrate of Sylhet has been ordered by Telegram through the Commissioner of Dacca, and also by letter, to collect Coolies for service under you as speedily as possible, paying whatever rates may be necessary to secure their services and refraining from pressing Coolies into the work *if it can be avoided.* He has also been desired to give every possible assistance to any Officer Colonel Richardson may depute, should he consider this advisable, to organize a Corps of Coolies.

3. The Magistrate has been informed that the Lieutenant-Governor will hold him responsible for any failure in the carriage of supplies to Jowai and the out-post, owing to the want of Coolies.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that these instructions will ensure a prompt and sufficient supply of Coolies.

5. You and your Assistants should take care that nothing is wanting in these respects so far as the Hills themselves are able to supply Coolies who are to be depended upon. It will rest with Colonel Richardson to provide sufficient escort to protect the Coolies when employed in carrying supplies, and to prevent any disaster that might cause a panic among them and lead them to desert.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor relies upon your using every exertion to induce the Chiefs who are still in rebellion to come in under a safe conduct and state what their grievances are, and what objects they desire to gain by continuing vainly to oppose the authority of the Government and thereby bringing ruin upon themselves and upon the District. You should endeavor to make it known to them that the Government desires to ascertain whether they have any reasonable grounds of complaint, and if there be such grounds, to remove them, and that, though no terms but those of unconditional surrender can be offered to Rebels in arms, those who make voluntary and complete submission will receive a full pardon, while those who continue to resist will be pursued to the utmost and punished with severity.

7. In the absence of Brigadier-General Showers Colonel Richardson has full authority to make what disposition of the Force at his disposal he considers best, with due regard to Military precautions, for protecting the well-disposed and securing their allegiance, and for preventing the Rebels from obtaining provisions at any rate without great risk, as well as for strengthening his own position and for taking advantage of any opportunity of attack which in the present unfavorable season may offer

itself. On this subject the Lieutenant-Governor awaits the fuller Report promised by you.

8. Brigadier-General Showers is no longer in Civil charge of the Cossyah Hills, as you were informed by my letter of the 1st instant, and you should therefore make all your Reports to the Commissioner of Assam, sending a copy direct to the Lieutenant-Governor.

No. 25T.

Copy of this letter, together with a copy of the correspondence noted, forwarded for the information of the Officiating Commissioner of Assam.

No. 26T.

Copy of this letter, together with a copy of the correspondence noted, forwarded for the information of the Government of India, in the Home Department.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding the Presidency Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal with the Lieutenant-Governor,—(No. 286A., dated the 30th June 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, that I have received a copy of the Report of Captain Morton, Deputy Commissioner, without No., dated the 19th instant, on the present state of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

2. I had reported periodically, for the information of His Honor, the villages and individuals that came in and settled; and at the time of my leaving the settlement of the country was still progressing. A village, "Jellapet," in the "Satoongah" District, had just settled in their village: the villagers of Jowai were still coming in, and the family of the Dolloye of Rambye had come in, which was expected to be the precursor of the Dolloye himself tendering his submission, and even after I left, a report was made to me that sixty or seventy families had given themselves up.

3. Since that time, however, progress appears to have ceased. I have heard of none but unfavorable reports. If affairs should continue to retrograde I propose, with the Lieutenant-Governor's sanction, to

return to the disturbed District and to resume charge of it. With the Deputy Commissioner established in his post, I shall be able to act in concurrence with him, so that when I leave he may be able to carry on the duties with better effect. I had fully expected with the plans Captain Morton had proposed he would have been able to make some progress.

4. As I only left the District in consequence of the importance that was attached to a report being made on the Frontier defences, I propose to complete the duty on which I have come to the Province; but on my return to Gowhatty I propose to proceed through the hills to resume charge. I have therefore to request I may be favored with His Honor's orders to await my return to Gowhatty about the 20th of the month.

5. The loss of the Guard of the 33rd Native Infantry will have the effect of giving heart to the Rebels, and greater precautions and vigilance will now be required.

6. The removal of all the out-posts, as suggested by Captain Morton, to the friendly villages of "Nurteng," "Nongba," and "Nonjoongee," I don't think at all advisable. There is already a Guard of thirty men at "Nurteng," and I have recommended, if the Dolloyes of the other villages wished it, Guards might be sent to them also. As affairs now stand they should be sent at once.

7. As regards "Barratto" the Guard at that place may be withdrawn if the men become unhealthy. I had always considered this probable, but "Munsow," "Shillong Muntang," "Raliong," and "Satoongah" should not be given up.

8. With reference to the fears expressed by Captain Morton of the failure of supplies from want of Coolies, I beg to annex a copy of a Report from Lieutenant Pakenham, stationed with a Detachment at Amwai to superintend the protection of the transport of the rations. His Honor will observe the calm and assured tone with which that Officer writes of being able to keep up a regular supply of stores. It is satisfactory, and I have no doubt he will effect the object.

9. As it will be desirable to have a month's supply of rice, dal, salt, and other articles of rations in store, I would recommend that the route by Cherra Poonjee should be also used to bring up supplies until the quantity required has been collected. The grain should be

forwarded from Sylhet by boat to Pundooah, and from thence carried on Elephants to Cherra Poonjee. Now that the cultivating season is over, Coolies to any number can be obtained at Cherra, but, to assist still further, Elephants might be made to carry the grain half-way to Jowai, this would involve their carrying their own fodder with them.

10. As His Honor would like to have the fullest information on the present state of the Cossyah Hills, I beg to annex extracts from a letter I received on my arrival here from Mr. T. Smith, the Assistant Commissioner at Jowai.

From the first passage it would appear that more men are likely to come in, and from the second that there is no organized combination.

Extract from a Report from LIEUTENANT PAKENHAM, Commanding Detachment 33rd Native Infantry at Amwai, to LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON.

"As there is no European Officer at Jynteeahpore to see that the arrangements for the transmission of russud for the Jowai Depôt are carried out satisfactorily, I have the honor to request you will do me the favor to solicit Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson to grant me permission to visit Jynteeahpore occasionally, as I feel certain that by doing so I shall be able to keep up a regular supply of stores on the road to Jowai. I could go down one day and come back the next."

Extracts from a letter from MR. T. SMITH, Assistant Commissioner, Jowai, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B.

"I MAY as well tell you here that there is no doubt whatever that the incessant demand for Coolies here in order to feed the out-posts is keeping many men in the jungle, who would otherwise come in. To-day I send a man to try and get in a batch I have heard of.

"You will have heard through the Military Authorities about the unfortunate incident of yesterday. It is only what must be looked for, I fear, now and then, now that the rebellion is over, and extensive Dacoity has taken its place, for, I think, that expresses best the state of affairs."

From J. D. Gordon, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 60T., dated on board the Yacht *Rhotas*, the 10th July 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 286A., dated the 30th ultimo, on the subject of the state of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, and in reply to forward, for your information, the accompanying copy of the orders* which were issued to Captain Morton, the Deputy Commissioner in charge, on his Report of the 19th ultimo, referred to by you.

* No. 24T., dated 6th instant.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor perceives nothing in the present state of the Hills in question which renders it necessary that you should assume the Civil administration on your return from Debrooghur; but if it be then practicable for you to proceed through the Hills from Gowhatty to the disturbed Districts, your presence there, in your Military capacity, will no doubt be of use in directing the arrangements to be maintained during the rainy season and the operations that may have to be undertaken when it is over.

3. A copy of paragraphs 8 and 9 of your letter under acknowledgment will be forwarded to the Magistrate of Sylhet with further orders to provide effectually for the carriage of supplies to Jowai and to assist to the utmost of his power any plans that Colonel Richardson may form for that purpose.

No. 61T.

Copy forwarded for the information of the Commissioner of Assam, with a request that, after consultation with Brigadier-General Showers, he will give Captain Morton such further instructions as may be necessary.

No. 62T.

Copy of the correspondence forwarded to the Government of India, Home Department, in continuation of endorsement No. 26T., dated the 6th instant.

From Captain B. W. D. Morton, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(dated the 27th June 1862.)

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the 19th instant, I have the honor to forward, for the information of Government, copy of a letter, of this day's date, addressed by me to Colonel Richardson, Commanding the Troops in Jynteeah Hills, and of my instructions to Lieutenant Andrew, whom I have deputed to Nurteng.

2. I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government that it appears desirable to destroy some of the villages to the east of Raliong, the inhabitants of which have not only steadily resisted all efforts to bring them back to their allegiance, but have also, on several occasions, evinced their hostility to Government by firing upon and otherwise harassing Detachments of Troops passing in that neighbourhood.

3. General Showers, C. B., left instructions to the effect that a conciliatory policy was to be adopted in the hopes of inducing the disaffected to submit to authority. Every effort has been made with this view, but with no success.

4. I am strongly of opinion that the Rebels should be no longer allowed to shelter themselves in villages where they have an abundance of grain. In the face of the General's instructions I feel myself unable to take the necessary steps. I beg that Government will authorize me finally to call upon the inhabitants of the villages in question to submit, or to take the consequences of their folly.

5. You will observe that I am extremely anxious to starve the rebellion. The altered dispositions of the Troops will partly effect this. The destruction during the rains of the villages to which I refer would, I believe, tend very greatly to the accomplishment of my object.

From Captain B. W. D. Morton, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to Lieutenant A. Andrew, Assistant Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(dated the 27th June 1862.)

Sir,

Arrangements having been made for the withdrawal of the out-posts at Barato, Raliong, and Satongah, and for the distribution of the Troops amongst friendly villages, I have the honor to request you

will proceed with a party of one Jemadar and twelve Police to Nurteng and make that Post your Head-Quarters until further orders. You will be guided by the following instructions :—

2. Colonel Richardson, Commanding in the Jynteeah Hills, has arranged to send ninety men from Barato to Nurteng. Fifty of these, under the command of a Native Commissioned Officer, will be at your disposal. You will be so good as to accompany them to Nongjoongee and select a suitable position in that village, whereat the Detachment will remain stationed. You will be careful, on the one hand, that this position is sufficiently near the Nongjoongee Bazar to enable the Native Officer in command to exercise control over it. You will also, on the other hand, be particularly careful that the position is one not commanded by high ground in the neighbourhood. You will probably have to effect arrangements for provisioning the Troops during the first three or four days of their stay at Nongjoongee.

3. As soon as the Detachment is fairly settled at Nongjoongee you will return to Nurteng. I have two objects in view in stationing you at Nurteng. The one is, that you may take steps to prevent the Rebels from drawing supplies, as they undoubtedly do at present, from the so called friendly villages and the Khyrim Territory. The other, that you may, if called upon by Colonel Richardson, purchase, on advances received from the Commissariat, grain and salt for the use of the Troops at Nurteng, Nongjoongee, and Shillong Muntang.

4. With reference to the first of these objects, the Rebels, I know, draw supplies from the Khyrim Territory, and indirectly from the Bazars of Nurteng and Nongjoongee. I have warned the Khyrim Rajah not to allow a single man, woman, or child from the Jynteeah Hills to enter his territory without a written pass, and he has faithfully promised to do his best to prevent it. Some individuals will doubtless elude his vigilance, and I have therefore to request that you will, from time to time, patrol with the Police the several paths leading to Nongkrem (Khyrim Territory) and apprehend any persons, friendly or not, proceeding from the Jynteeah Hills in contravention of the above orders. Any persons coming from the Khyrim Territory you will turn back, and, if required, forward in custody to the Khyrim Rajah. One great rendezvous of the Rebels is on the road between Moklah and Pourriang.

A Detachment of Sepoys of not less than fifteen strong should escort you on such occasions, and you ought, as a rule, to return to Nurteng before nightfall.

5. I have said that the Rebels indirectly draw supplies from the friendly villagers; in other words, supposed friendly villagers make purchase at the several Bazars and supply Rebels, who meet them at some distance from those Bazars. Above a fortnight ago I requested Colonel Richardson to close the Nongjoongee (Yao Prussiang) Bazar, but owing to the paucity of Troops at his disposal at the time he was unable to do so. This request was made in consequence of the Nongjoongee villagers having permitted armed Rebels to frequent their Bazar. I question, however, whether it would be expedient, after the lapse of so many days, to close the Bazar, and I accordingly authorize you to call upon the Dolloye of Nongjoongee to enter into an engagement not to allow armed men to enter his jurisdiction, and on his doing so to keep the Bazar open.

6. To prevent the Rebels being supplied, as noted in the preceding paragraph, I request you will order the Bazar at Nurteng and Nongjoongee to be held once a fortnight, instead of once a week, and that you will patrol with Police and Sepoys, on Bazar days, the Bazars themselves and their neighbourhood. I beg also that you will encourage the villagers to dispose of their grain and other produce to the Troops.

From CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding the Troops in the Jynteeah Hills,—(dated the 27th June 1862.)

SIR,

WITH reference to our conversation of this morning, and in continuation of my demi-official letter dated the 19th instant, I have the honor to state that I understand that the following arrangements will shortly be effected:—

2. Owing to the incompleteness of Commissariat arrangements and the flooded state of the Country, it has been found extremely hazardous to maintain Guards at the out-posts noted in the margin. These will accordingly be withdrawn.

Barato.
Raliong.
Satongah.

3. The so-called friendly villages of Nurteng, Nongjoongee, and Nungba being suspected of active sympathy with the Rebels, and there being a probability that the Rebels themselves will muster in strong force on the road between Jynteeahpore and Jowai, the available Troops will be posted as follows:—

A Detachment under an European Officer at Nongtalong.

Ditto under a Native Commissioned Officer at Nongjoongee.

The Guards will be strengthened at Nurteng, Shillong Muntang, and Munsow, and European Officers will be stationed at the two former Posts, Munsow remaining, as at present, under a Non-Commissioned Officer.

4. I have directed Lieutenant Andrew to proceed to Nurteng. A copy of my instructions to that Officer is herewith enclosed for your information.

5. I have the honor to suggest that an effort should be made to provision the Troops at Nurteng, Nongjoongee, and Shillong Muntang, from the resources of the Nurteng and Nongjoongee Districts. For this purpose, I think, the Commissariat should receive an order to supply Lieutenant Andrew with an advance of money to lay in at Nurteng a store of rice and salt. This measure would relieve the Commissariat of the necessity of forwarding supplies to those Guards. It would also lessen the number of escorts; and lastly, would cut out the Rebels from supplies on which they have lately been depending.

From CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(dated the 4th July 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to bring to the notice of Government the necessity, in my opinion, of laying in large stores of unhusked rice for the supply of Troops and Coolies employed in these Hills.

2. We still labor under great difficulties in obtaining provisions from Bengal, and I am not without my fear that these difficulties will increase should the rebellion be as protracted as it at present gives promise of being. As it is, the Troops are constantly reduced to the necessity of living on rice, with or without salt. The Coolies, of course, get nothing else.

3. Immense tracts of good paddy land in these Hills have remained uncultivated this year, and I think the probabilities are that there will accordingly be a marked scarcity of provisions, if not an absolute famine, next year. The Cossyahs are not a foreseeing race, and I have reason to believe that I can at present secure dhan or unhusked rice at sixty seers for the Rupee. This would yield very nearly a maund of rice for the Rupee. The Commissariat sell Bengallee rice at fifteen seers for the Rupee.

4. I have the honor to suggest that I should be authorized to purchase at least 5,000 maunds of dhan with a view of the same being securely stored and placed under charge of an experienced European Officer. There would be no difficulty, I think, in disposing of the surplus dhan (should there be any) next cold season.

5. In saying 5,000 maunds at least, I have in view the supply merely of the Troops and Coolies employed by Government. In my humble opinion it would be a wise policy to buy up every grain of spare rice in the Jynteeah Hills. From the concluding paragraph of my letter, to your address, dated the 27th ultimo, you will observe that it is my belief that to secure the settlement of the country we must starve the rebellion.

6. Every day adds to my conviction that we have not only those actually in rebellion to deal with. There can be no question that, with a view, probably, of keeping well with both parties, and thereby securing their own immunity, the friendly villagers supply the disaffected with the necessaries of life. The Rebels, with the exception of those to the eastward, have not cultivated their lands this year. I have already solicited the sanction of Government (*vide* my letter, to your address, of the 27th ultimo) to deal summarily with the villages to the east and their this year's crops, in the event of their declining to submit.

By buying up the spare grain in the Jynteeah Hills we should reduce the Rebels to great straits this season, and threaten them with absolute starvation next. Should Major Raban, by the aid of Police, be able to control the Bazars held on the Assam and Sylhet sides, I should be at a loss to state from what quarter these Rebels could look for supplies beyond the next four months.

7. I do not think that I am within the mark in saying that at the very outside there are not above 20,000 maunds of spare rice in the Jynteeah Hills. It may seem a large amount for the Government to buy up, but I am convinced that Government would be no losers by doing so. As I have said, I anticipate a very great scarcity here next cold weather, and far more than 20,000 maunds would, I anticipate, meet a ready sale. Should the settlement of this country be effected by the close of the present rains I can well fancy that, being dependent, in a measure, for their food upon the Government they have done their best to injure, would, in conjunction with the punishment of the leaders, exercise a salutary effect upon the mass of the people now in rebellion.

8. In anticipation of the orders of Government, and on my own responsibility, I have directed Lieutenant Andrew, my Assistant at Nurteng, to enter into an arrangement with the Dolloye of that village for the purchase of 2,000 maunds of grain, on the understanding that the same will be taken back in the event of my arrangement not meeting with the approval of Government. Soliciting the favor of early orders on this important subject.

From J. D. GORDON, ESQ., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to MAJOR J. C. HAUGHTON, Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 199T., dated on board the Yacht *Rhotas*, the 31st July 1862.)

SIR,

THE Lieutenant-Governor has received from Captain Morton, the Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, two letters dated 27th June and 4th July, of which a copy is enclosed. His Honor has also seen Captain Morton's letter of the 9th July addressed to Major Agnew, and has had the advantage of personal communication with you and Brigadier-General Showers on the affairs of that District.

2. A copy of the instructions sent to Captain Morton on the 6th instant has already been furnished to you. In those instructions Captain Morton was desired to use every exertion to induce the Chiefs who were still in rebellion to come in and state their grievances, and to make known to them that those who voluntarily submitted would

receive a full pardon, but that continued resistance would be punished with severity.

3. To this policy the Lieutenant-Governor adheres. He desires that the destruction of villages, as proposed by Captain Morton, even though some of the inhabitants may have been actually hostile to the Government, and also the destruction of crops, may be entirely and absolutely prohibited, and that nothing further may be done to irritate the people, to make them distrust the intentions of the Government, and to drive them to desperation.

4. The power of the Government has been sufficiently shewn by the complete Military occupation of the District, by the destruction of the strong-holds of the Rebels, by the loss of their property, by their utter discomfiture wherever they have ventured to oppose themselves to disciplined Troops, and by the infliction of severe distress, not only on the guilty, but also, it is to be feared, on the innocent and on the helpless families of all.

5. It is not any hope of being able successfully to defy the Government that induces some of these misguided people still to remain in rebellion. It may be that they are naturally actuated by resentment for the past, but it is evident that their continued obstinate resistance is to be attributed mainly, if not entirely, to the fear of the possible consequences of submission.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor, therefore, desires that the spirit of General Showers' instructions to Captain Morton may be carefully observed, and that means be sought of conveying to the Rebels, through every practicable channel, the assurance that all who submit themselves to authority and peaceably return to their allegiance will be pardoned.

7. Captain Morton may be authorized to intimate to the Cossyah Chiefs that if the disturbed country is entirely pacified when the Lieutenant-Governor arrives at Sylhet, in course of next month, and if every person now in rebellion has by that time surrendered, His Honor will himself proceed to Cherra Poonjee and receive the Chiefs in Durbar; but that so long as disturbances continue in any part of Jynteeah, the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor in the Hills is out of the question.

8. It is not the object of the Government, as Captain Morton supposes, to starve the rebellion, that is, to starve a whole population for the sake of punishing or coercing the guilty few. If it be necessary, as a measure of precaution, to store 5,000 maunds of paddy for the use of the Troops and Coolies this may be done; but to purchase a larger quantity for the avowed purpose of cutting off all supplies from the villagers, who are already straitened for food by the loss of their grain in store, and by the stoppage of cultivation, would be a measure of needless cruelty which cannot be sanctioned.

9. Next to that of inducing the Rebels to surrender, the object to which Captain Morton's energies should be directed is the punishment of those who persist in rebellion and the protection of the innocent and those who are inclined to be friendly. He cannot be permitted to involve all in one common calamity.

10. As to the future administration of the District the Lieutenant-Governor's orders will be communicated to you hereafter, but in the meantime it is necessary to observe that His Honor entirely dissents from Captain Morton's project of exercising a more direct interference than heretofore with the Cossyahs of the Jynteeah Hills, and desires, on the contrary, to leave the people to themselves as much as possible, and to govern them, as far may be, through their own Chiefs.

11. In regard to the supply of Coolies the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied, by a recent communication from the Magistrate of Sylhet, that there has been no want of exertion on the part of that Officer in the matter, and that the number of Coolies sent up from Sylhet would have been sufficient, under proper arrangements, for every purpose required of them. But, so far as the papers shew, no attempt has been made to reconcile the Coolies to the service by just and careful treatment, by protection from danger, by providing them with food, and by prompt and regular payment of their wages, or to organize the available supply of labor in any way. Mr. Smith was long ago directed by General Showers to raise two Coolie Corps, one for bringing up provisions from Jynteeah, and the other for moving into the interior, and this, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks, might easily have been done; but whether any steps were taken to carry out this plan does not appear. Captain Morton should now be desired, in communication with

Mr. Tayler, the Magistrate of Sylhet, to take this matter in hand at once, and to employ, if necessary, a special Officer on the duty, with instructions to enlist as many Coolies as are required at such rates of pay as may be necessary to induce them to take employment, to provide for their comfort and proper usage while employed on the Hills, and to discharge none who are willing to remain so long as their services are likely to be required.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, with the Lieutenant-Governor,—(No. 295A., dated the 5th July 1862.)

SIR,

SINCE the despatch of my letter No. 286A. of the 30th ultimo, I have received a copy of Captain Morton's letter to the Secretary to Government, dated the 27th June, with enclosures, noted in the margin.

Captain Morton's letter, dated 27th June to the address of Lieutenant Andrew.
Captain Morton's letter, dated 27th June, to Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson.

2. I have also received Reports from Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, Commanding in the Jynteeah Hills, stating the necessity of withdrawing the Detachments from Barato, Ralliong, and Satongah in consequence of the want of supplies and the difficulty of furnishing them at those places during the rains. It was to prevent this movement I proposed to return to the Hills.

3. As the measure has been carried out I will not trouble His Honor with an explanation of the reasons which led me to post the Troops as I did. I will only observe that giving up an offensive for a defensive position will give confidence to the Rebels and retard the settlement of the District.

4. There were undoubtedly difficulties to be overcome in supplying the Troops with provisions; but as it arose from the arrangements that had been proposed before I left not having been completed before the force of the rainy season commenced these difficulties would only have been experienced at first.

5. The letters herewith enclosed, Mr. Smith's letter No. 2, dated 4th June, to my address, as also his letter No. 4, dated 9th idem, shew the exertions he was making to complete these arrangements; and these, together with the directions I have given for grain to be supplied *viâ* Cherra Poonjee, would have rendered the position secure.

6. I approve of the arrangements Captain Morton has made to stop, if possible, any communication between the inhabitants of Nongkreem and the Rebels, and to prevent their obtaining supplies from the Bazars of the friendly villages. I approve also of the Detachment under Captain Robinson having been ordered to Nongtalong.

7. I have already stated my opinion of the necessity of severity being exercised against the Rebels after the attack they made on the Guard proceeding to Munsow last month. Every man who is now caught, whether in arms or not, if he has not given in his submission, should be treated as a Rebel, and those who have should be similarly treated, unless they can shew they have not joined the Rebels or assisted them; but I doubt the advantage of burning villages. It will render the country a waste. It must be recollected that it is only those men whose villages have been burned who are still in rebellion, Ralliong, Shamfong, and Munsow.

8. As the reports I have now received do not shew any kind of combination or any acts of hostility, the nature of which had not been anticipated, I do not see that there will be any necessity for my returning to the Hills. I am, however, prepared to return if His Honor should consider it advisable.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

FORWARDED for submission to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

From CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(dated the 9th June 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor, in forwarding the correspondence quoted in the margin, to inform you that I have, in anticipation of your orders, approved of the proceedings detailed in Mr. Smith's letter.

To Captain Morton.
Form Sergeant Asuntaye No. 34, dated 6th of June.
From Mr. Smith dated 9th of June, No. 4.
From Magistrate of Sylhet, to General Showers, C. B., No. 509, dated 28th of May 1862.

2. When matters are a little settled the Commissariat will probably be able to effect more economical arrangements. Meanwhile I see no alternative between accepting the terms offered by the Chiefs with whom Mr.

Smith had an interview and withdrawing the out-posts from their present advantageous positions. To do the former may necessitate a reference to Government with a view of orders being passed to the Commissariat Department for the adjustment of accounts. To attempt the latter must result in giving fresh confidence to the Rebel Chiefs and rendering the friendly villages, such as Nurteng, Shilliong Muntang, liable to punishment at the hands of those Chiefs.

3. With reference to the concluding portion of Mr. Smith's letter, in approving of the arrangements he proposes to make, I have further directed him to send Police Sepoys with each detachment of Coolies. These will receive a Perwannah and will be answerable that no unauthorized use is made of the Coolies.

4. The Commissariat Sergeant has not the power to pay the Coolies monthly. Pending a reference on the subject, I beg to suggest that Mr. Smith should receive an advance of 1,000 Rupees, to be hereafter adjusted with the Commissariat.

5. I solicit the favor of your returning the original correspondence herewith enclosed.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

Forwarded, in original, for submission to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

From T. Smith, Esq., Assistant to the Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, C. B., Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 2, dated Jowai, the 4th June 1862.)

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 1 of this day's date, I have the honor to report, for your information, the successful issue of the Expedition of Lieutenant Walcott therein mentioned.

2. I have just received a note from that Officer, from which it appears that he has effected the rescue of the men detained by the Rebels, and has also secured a quantity of dhan, two Jowai Rebels, and three women of Jalong.

3. The number of insurgents he estimates at 100, belonging to Munsow, Jalong, and Jowai. He states that they intended proceeding

to-morrow, *viâ* Nunoye, to Padoo, Pompadong, and Nongtalong, but they have now been considerably dispersed.

4. As I propose going myself to Nunoye to-morrow, I was anxious to make this Report ready at once. Should anything of importance occur before my departure I will add a postscript. I will, during the march, carefully examine the sites where bridges may be needed, and search for timber fit for their construction.

5. I think the total number of Coolies required will be twenty for the Guards at Batao, Nunoye, and Nongtalong, and 160 for the supply of the general Depôt at this place. On what terms these men can be procured I am unable to state until I shall have conferred with the people of Nunoye, and Sathpather, and Lukadey Ilaquas. Immediately on my return to this place I shall do myself the honor of submitting a detailed Report to you on this point.

P. S.—I think I have made a satisfactory arrangement about the stockade site. I find there is on the Hill a small mound containing bones, about twelve feet by fifteen and three feet high. If this be enclosed with a paling and protected from violation, and a compensation out of the confiscated land given for the Hill, it will be willingly surrendered. This mound has nothing objectionable in a sanitary point of view, and will not interfere with the work.

I am just about to start for Nunoye, and on my return will endeavor to ascertain and survey the Rebel lands which are in detached parcels.

From T. Smith, Esq., Assistant to the Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to Captain B. W. D. Morton, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 4, dated Jowai, the 9th June 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report my arrival this day from Nunoye Poonjee, whither I had proceeded on the 7th by desire of Brigadier-General Showers, c. b., Commissioner, to take measures for the levy and organization of a Coolie Corps.

2. I had sent messengers a day or two in advance to desire the Sirdars of Sathpathor, &c., to meet me in a general Durbar at Nunoye. On my arrival, however, I found, in addition to the Dolloye of Nunoye, only the representative of Sathpathor present.

3. I endeavored to explain to those present the object for which I had come, and left it to their choice to select one of three modes of payment, *viz.*, so much per maund delivered in Jowai, so much per working day, or so much per month, giving them to understand that the remuneration would be equal whichever system of payment they chose. Without a moment's hesitation they accepted the last alternative, and I thereupon entered into a discussion as to the rate of payment.

4. They hesitated at first to fix a sum, but I clearly perceived that they would not *willingly* accept the very arduous service in question without some slight advance on the current rate in peaceable times, *viz.*, four annas per working day, and two annas for return journey. This would amount to Rupees 6-4 per mensem or nearly; and, taking all circumstances of the case into consideration, I thought it expedient to offer the liberal scale of Rupees 7 per mensem; having done which I dismissed them to hold a village Durbar.

5. As I may perhaps be censured for promising, on behalf of Government, a sum exceeding the ordinary market rates, I trust you will excuse me for entering into an anticipatory defence of my proceedings.

I have had some knowledge of the rates of wages in this and in the adjacent District of Sylhet. In the Bazar of the latter Station Coolies, whose work is child's play compared to that which the Coolie Corps will have to undergo, receive 4 to 5 annas per diem. Harvest laborers in the same District obtain from 4 to 5 annas per diem beside their food. The Coolies who take the Potatoe crops of these Hills down to the river ports of shipment obtain an average wage of 4 to 6 annas per diem.

6. Now, in the present service, not only is there excessive fatigue, to be supported only by men well nourished and clothed, but there is also a certain amount of danger to life, either from lurking parties of the Rebels, or the rapidity and depth of the streams which have to be passed. I thought it, therefore, wiser, and really more economical, to abandon the make-shift system, or no-system, which has hitherto prevailed, and at once frankly to offer such a remuneration as would command really voluntary service.

7. At the request of the villagers I halted at Nunoye during the 8th to enable a regular Durbar to be held. On the morning of to-day,

the Sathpathor Sirdar promised me sixty Coolies on my terms, and the Nunoye village engaged for fifty. I shall require in all about 160, and I have no doubt but that, when my terms are known, the remainder will come forward from Nongtalong and elsewhere.

8. The great objection to the service was, I found, the apprehension of being taken to accompany Columns beyond Jowai. Now, the supply of russud to Jowai is of vital importance; the movement of Troops in the interior of much less consequence. I therefore, on behalf of Government, gave a pledge that the enrolled Coolies should on no account be taken beyond Jowai.

9. I was careful to explain the system of payment which would be adopted. It is this, every Coolie will be furnished by me with a ticket bearing his number, name, and village. A book will be kept here with corresponding entries, and every Coolie, on deposit of his load here, will have a mark affixed to his name indicating ordinarily four days' work. When he has been credited with thirty days' work he will receive his pay for a month.

10. There is a less important matter, but still one deserving of mention. At first, for the purpose of saving trouble in recognizing the enrolled Coolies, I proposed that each should wear round his arm a strip of brightly colored calico. This idea was highly appreciated by the Cossyahs, knowing, as they did, that this, together with the production of their ticket, would save them from impressment by any one, or for any purpose other than that for which they are to be entertained. I would therefore solicit your permission to send to Sylhet for a sufficient quantity of material for these badges.

11. I entertain confident hopes that, by the adoption of the system I have the honor to propose, we may be henceforward saved from the disgraceful condition of half rations for the Sepoy, and impressment for the Coolies. I cannot, of course, pledge myself to the success of the measure, but you may rest assured that I will exert myself to the utmost to ensure its efficiency.

12. In conclusion it has been suggested to me that the Commissariat Department may experience a difficulty in adjusting their accounts when Coolies are paid by monthly wages. If the Department in question can by itself arrange for the carriage of supplies it is needless for

me to say that the Civil Authorities will only be too happy to make over that very troublesome business; but if the latter are expected to make the necessary arrangements, I trust that no mere matter of form will be allowed to interfere with their free action.

13. Certain matters, exclusive of this arrangement for transport, came to my notice at Nunoye, but I propose to submit these for your consideration on a future opportunity. I have now only to add that if the Coolie Corps is to be efficient for its purpose the following regulations should be strictly observed:—

1st.—That no mess or private Officer be permitted to make use of the Coolie Corps for stores or baggage appertaining to the same on the upward journey.

2nd.—That no Coolie enrolled be, on any pretext whatever, withdrawn from the line between Jowai and Jynteeah, or employed in any public or private work other than the conveyance of rations between those places.

3rd. That Messes or Officers be permitted to send return loads to Jynteeah by the Coolie Corps on payment of eight annas per load of thirty seers, one-half to be credited to Government, and the rest to be a gratuity for the Coolie employed.

4th.—That all Civil and Military Officers in this and the adjacent Distrcts be informed of the regulations in question and requested to conform thereto.

Trusting the above arrangements and regulations may meet your approval.

From J. D. Gordon, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 200T., dated on board the Lieutenant-Governor's Yacht *Rhotas*, the 31st July 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 295A., dated the 5th instant, submitting your remarks on the present state of affairs in the Jynteeah Hills.

2. In reply I am desired to state that the Lieutenant-Governor shares your regret at the withdrawal of the Detachments from Barato, Ralliong, and Satongah, and at the circumstances which rendered the measure necessary.

3. His Honor agrees with you in thinking that it is not now necessary for you to return to the Hills; but he requests that you will have the goodness to give Colonel Richardson any further instructions that you may consider to be necessary for his guidance on the present state of affairs.

4. A copy of a letter this day addressed to the Commissioner of Assam is forwarded for your information.

No. 201.

COPY forwarded to the Commissioner of Assam for information.

From CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(dated the 24th July 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 21T., dated 6th instant, replying to my letter of the 19th ultimo, reporting present state of Jynteeah Hills and forwarding certain instructions for my guidance.

2. With reference to the 6th paragraph of your letter under reply, I have the honor to state that, previous to the receipt of your instructions, I had directed Mr. J. B. Shadwell to intimate to certain persons who, he reported, were willing to communicate with the Rebels the terms on which submission would be accepted. These were—

1*st.*—Guarantee of life to all who had not been engaged in cold-blooded murder, with exception of Ookiang and Mullion, the notorious leaders of the rebellion, who had probably directed the commission of the murders alluded to.

2*nd.*—That the lives even of those two men would not be necessarily forfeited.

3*rd.*—Free pardon to the mass of Rebels who had not been engaged in cold-blooded murder. I explained that the expression "cold-blooded murder" did not include the deaths of Sepoys killed in fair fight.

3. Besides writing to Mr. Shadwell, I have lost no opportunity myself of giving publicity to the above terms, and my Assistant, Lieutenant Andrew, has been equally careful to try and bring in the Rebels.

4. I hope I may prove an indifferent prophet, at the same time I should not be doing my duty were I to conceal my belief that the Rebels will not give in before the end of October, and then only if the severe measures recommended in the 2nd paragraph of my letter, dated the 27th ultimo, to your address, are at least threatened. How far I am justified in my belief the enclosed copy of a letter from Lieutenant Andrew, of date 24th July, may shew.

5. For the information of Government I beg to enclose a copy of my reply to Lieutenant Andrew. I have written to the Commissioner of Assam requesting him to issue such orders as may appear advisable with reference to the closing of the Nowgong Hâts.

6. I take this opportunity of bringing to the notice of Government that we are hard pressed for Officers. At this present moment the only effective Officers at Jowai are those Commanding the 44th and 33rd Native Infantry. We much want an Officer for the post of Nongjoongee, as also one or two at Jowai, to relieve any who may fall sick at the out-posts.

7. As directed I have sent copies of these letters to the Commissioner of Assam.

From Lieutenant A. Andrew, Assistant Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to Captain B. W. D. Morton, Deputy Commissioner,—(dated the 24th July 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to report, for your information, that I yesterday afternoon received your letter of the 19th instant, relating to the closing of Bazars on the Jynteeah side of the Hills and in the territory of the Nongkreem Rajah. On the subject, I would venture to suggest that if you could, by any possible means, stop the Rebels from procuring articles of food, &c., from the Nowgong Frontier it would considerably assist in shortening their supplies, as I am of opinion they obtain more from that quarter than any other.

2. I yesterday morning, at about 9-30 A. M., left Shilliong Muntang to return to my Head-Quarters *viâ* Nongjoongee. Lieutenant Campbell accompanied me about one-third of the way to Nongjoongee with twenty of his men. As he was on the point of returning, about eighty Rebels well armed hove in sight *on their private road* leading from Munsow *viâ* the Thakhanying District* to Barato. They were not within a mile of us, so that the idea of endeavoring to catch them was out of the question. Lieutenant Campbell, on seeing their numbers, requested me, or rather said, he thought it would be advisable not to send less than thirty muskets with russud in future. I accordingly, on arrival at Nongjoongee, gave the Subadar orders to that effect. On this matter I have written to Colonel Richardson, and, of course, will withdraw the order in question should he think it advisable.

* There is no Thakhanying District. Thakhanying belongs to the Illaqua of Nongjoongee.
B. W. D. M.
D. C.

3. After leaving Lieutenant Campbell my road was literally covered by herds of Rebels, all armed. One body of them, who stood still apparently undecided as to whether it would be better to come and try or not, could not have numbered less than from 150 to 200 men. Until within two miles of Nongjoongee fresh bodies continually kept appearing, and I consider I am rather under the mark than over in estimating them at from three to four hundred. It may seem strange that such a large body of men should have allowed me to proceed unmolested, a thing I never in the slightest degree anticipated; but there was only one place on the road between me and Nongjoongee where position would have favored them, and had they moved to take that up, I could, by inclining a little to the left, have compelled them to come to open ground if they wished to fight. They, however, seemed, as far the larger bodies of men were concerned, to be contented with looking at me, only small parties of fives and sixes following me up evidently with the intention of finding out what I was after. Rain fell heavily before I reached Nongjoongee, and, as I saw that such would be the case from the first, I thought it most advisable to pursue my road and not follow them up. I had twenty-five muskets with me; they would all have been at my disposal, as I ordered those with the prisoner to shoot him immediately in

case the Rebels tried coming to close quarters. The greater part of the armed men that I saw were in Thakhanying District, yet the Heads of the same* declare they never see such people as Rebels. My own opinion is that the Dolloye and Headmen of Nongjoongee, as well as of Thakhanying and the other villages in that District (Nongjoongee), are one and all active aiders and abettors of the Rebels, supplying them with information as to the despatch of Guards, &c. While on this subject I cannot refrain from observing that the conduct of Oosen Dolloye, of Shilliong Muntang, has been most creditable throughout. He has had his house burnt by the Rebels and suffered considerable loss, for which I trust you will see that he receives ample compensation. He has on more than one occasion given valuable and timely information, and is, I believe, honest in his professions.

* *i. e.*, the Nongjoongee Dolloye and Pathors of Thakhanying.
B. W. D. M.
D. C.

4. On arrival at Nurteng, at about 3 P. M. yesterday, I learnt from the Subadar left in charge of the Detachment that yesterday some two or three hundred Rebels were visible on the tops of the surrounding Hills, and that the Dolloye informed him they would burn his Poonjee. At this time owing to my being away with the Russud Guard, and to the fact of a Guard of the Detachment being on escort duty to Jowai, there were only twenty-five muskets available. The Subadar took fourteen of these and went to that part of the village to which the Dolloye said a portion of the Rebels had gone for the purpose of burning it. Such was the case, but the Rebels, after exchanging a shot or two, again betook themselves to the heights. The remaining eleven muskets with the Police remained to protect the camp. This arrangement, carried out with promptitude, probably saved a portion of the village. The name of the Subadar is Chowkan; that of the Jemadar Mona Sing.

5. From the above, I think, two facts are deducible, *viz.*, that as from the nature of my duties it is absolutely necessary for me to be absent from Head-Quarters sometimes for five or six days, it is almost necessary that a European Officer should be stationed here in charge of the Detachment. Men work better under one than under Native Commissioned Officers, however energetic the latter may be, and from the large bodies of Rebels now moving about, the necessity is, I fancy,

greater than ever. The second fact to which I refer is the strengthening of this Guard. At Shilliong Muntang there are never less than eighty muskets or thereabout; at Nongjoongee never less than fifty; at Munsow, now it has been strengthened, I fancy there will never be less than eighty, and yet here, where Troops can be fed as easily, if not easier than at any other Station in the Hills, the Guard is sometimes reduced to twenty-five men.* They cannot reckon on the Russud Guard, as it is perpetually on the move, and while it is out, however much I might wish to go out, I could hardly do so. The Detachment, taking in the sick, numbers forty Sepoys, and twelve of those are often at Jowai.

* Owing to escort duty the Guard is eighty strong.

6. I would also, under all circumstances, urgently request that I may be vested with discretionary power to burn villages in the District of Nurteng and Nongjoongee, in which either the Dolloyes themselves admit that Rebels live, or which may otherwise be proved to be in the habit of aiding and abetting the Rebels.

7. I would further request that Soorkee Darogah may be sent back with this Guard, as I have no good interpreter, and I find him in a great many positions of service to me.

From CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Jowai Poonjee, to LIEUTENANT A. ANDREW, Assistant Commissioner, Nurteng,—(dated the 24th July 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of your three letters, of the 23rd and 24th instant, copies of which I shall forward direct to Government.

Copy of the letter of 24th July last. Others not important.
B. W. D. M.
D. C.

2. It appears to me from the Reports I have received from Captain Robinson, Commanding at Nongtalong (and I am confirmed in my opinion by persons at Jowai), that the Rebels on the other side of the Muntang have been increased in number owing to those in the Nongtalong direction having been hunted out of their resting place by Captain Robinson. As he will shortly cross the Mungot in chase of some men who have taken up their

quarters in the Khyrim Illaqua, it is probable that still greater numbers will assemble across the Muntang. I think you will find that the whole body will eventually move off to Nongfloot. I believe this change of position on the part of the Rebels will prove fatal to their cause.

3. Your description of the double part the friendly villagers of Nong-joongee, Shilliong Muntang, &c., are playing is quite in keeping with our former experience. I am not prepared, however, to authorize the burning of every village in which Rebels take up their quarters, unless they take advantage of their position to harass Detachments. At the same time I am clearly of opinion that steps should be taken to prevent the Rebels from occupying any village from which it is possible to eject them. With this view I authorized you to call upon the inhabitants of any such village to place themselves and property under the protection of the Guards and to unroof their houses. This will effectually prevent the Rebels from taking up their quarters in the village, and will not expose the inhabitants to any very great hardship, as they can easily run up temporary houses under the protection of the Guards and return to their houses on the restoration of order.

4. With regard to Shilliong Muntang, I beg you will request Lieutenant Campbell to destroy any houses which interfere with the safety of his position. I shall present the Dolloye with a sum of money and request him to build a stockade round his village should Lieutenant Campbell think such advisable.

5. Lieutenant Udny with twenty men will strengthen you at Nurtong. I hope you will continue on the move, as it is highly important to give the Rebels no rest. This increase to your Force will enable you to hunt up the jungle residences of the Rebels.

6. I shall write to the Commissioner of Assam, suggesting to him the advisability of shutting up the Hâts on the Nowgong Frontier and stationing Troops and Police there with a view of preventing supplies being sent to the Rebels. I much regret I cannot send you Soorkee. His services are much required at Nongtalong at present, whither I have sent him. I shall write to-morrow to Mr. Shadwell to send Rujun Sing Jemadar and eight Police to Pourriang; these will arrive at Pourriang this day week (Thursday, the 31st of July). The Jemadar will be under your orders. I hope you will be able to keep a body of Police at Pourriang to prevent ingress or egress from the Khyrim Territory.

From J. D. Gordon, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Captain B. W. D. Morton, Deputy Commissioner in charge of Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 352T., dated on board the Lieutenant-Governor's Yacht *Rhotas*, the 30th August 1862.)

Sir,

With reference to the 6th paragraph of your letter of the 24th ultimo, I am directed to inform you that the Government of India, in the Military Department, has been requested to send four European Officers of experience to do duty with the 44th Native Infantry.

2. You have already received, through the Commissioner of Assam, the Lieutenant-Governor's instructions of the 31st ultimo, and I am again to impress upon you that, without relaxing in any degree such Military operations against the Rebels as may be practicable at this season, you must refrain altogether from burning villages and otherwise indiscriminately harassing the people, and desire the Officer Commanding the Troops in the District to observe the same course, unless it be absolutely necessary, for immediate Military purposes, to act otherwise.

3. You have been desired to offer a free pardon to all Rebels, without exception, who submit themselves voluntarily. These instructions must be scrupulously observed. The Chiefs are not likely to come in unless they are assured that they will be pardoned and will not be asked to make excuses for their past conduct.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor will not on any account sanction the measures of severity proposed in your letter of the 27th June last.

5. A copy of this letter has been sent to the Commissioner of Assam for information.

No. 353T.

Copy of this letter forwarded for the information of the Officiating Commissioner of Assam.

No. 354T.

Copy forwarded to the Government of India, Home Department.

Memorandum from C. T. BUCKLAND, Esq., Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(dated the 27th July 1862.)

COPY submitted for the information of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

From S. H. C. TAYLER, Esq., Magistrate of Sylhet, to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 680, dated the 22nd July 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, herewith, for your information, a translation of a Report from the Darogah of Thannah Jynteeahpore regarding an attack made by the Rebel Cossyahs on the night of the 18th July in Sathpather Poonjee. I have reported the matter to Colonel Richardson, as the occurrence took place beyond the limits of my District.

Translation of a Report from the Darogah of Thannah Jynteeah,—(dated the 19th July 1862.)

TO-DAY a Cossyah, by name Shoona Dolloye, inhabitant of Sathpather Poonjee, in the jurisdiction of Cherra, came to this Thannah and stated that last night, at about four or six dundos, nearly 100 Rebel Cossyahs armed with muskets, &c., attacked his Poonjee and first demanded from him and others Rupees 100, calling for the Sirdar of the Poonjee from which Coolies were supplied to Government. They threatened to commit outrages on the inhabitants, on which the informant and others went, with their wives and children, into the jungles and thus saved their lives. That the Rebels plundered Rice, Salt, &c., from the houses of other Cossyahs of the Poonjee and then proceeded towards Hamchung Poonjee, taking a northerly direction. That he does not know any thing as to the movements of other Rebel Cossyahs. He moreover stated that there is no certainty for what may happen in future and wants a stockade in his Poonjee. All these statements were made before the Subadar, Kashiram Alee, of the L. Battalion. As the spot in question is in the jurisdiction of Cherra Poonjee and two pohurs distance from the Thannah, I have informed the Commanding Officer and the Subadar, directing the informant and the Police to watch the movements of the Rebels.

From C. T. Buckland, Esq., Commissioner of the Dacca Division, to the Junior Secretary, with the Lieutenant-Governor, on his tour, Mymensing,—(No. 211, dated the 14th August 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Lieutenant-Governor, copy of the letters noted on the margin, from the Magistrate of Sylhet.

No. 711, dated 28th July.
Nos. 724-725, dated 30th July.

2. It appears that the Cossyahs are coming out in Pergunnah Jynteeah, in Sylhet, and their chief object is to supply themselves with food.

3. I recommended the Magistrate of Sylhet to make some demonstration against the Rebels if possible; but the Force at Sylhet is scarcely sufficient for such a purpose, there being only about seventy-five men of the East India Regiment and about 150 men (of whom many are sick) of the 33rd Native Infantry, and all of these are under the orders of General Showers, who has doubtless issued his own orders on hearing of these movements of the Rebels.

From S. H. C. Tayler, Esq., Magistrate of Sylhet, to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 711, dated the 28th July 1862.)

Sir,

In forwarding the accompanying translation of a Report from the Naib Darogah of Pharee Gowineghat, I have the honor to state that I have received another Report to-day, dated the 27th July, from the same Officer, stating that he has received information from one Lall Mahomed, inhabitant of Pergunnah Zufflong, Mouzah Choilakhel, that his Ryots of Mouzah Pauch Haotee went and told him that on the 26th July, at about midnight, some fifty or sixty Rebel Cossyahs armed with arrows, kuttras, and muskets attacked their village, seized some of them, and wanted provisions, &c. On their refusing to comply with the demand they were detained until they promised to give russud. After this the Villagers concealed themselves with their families in the jungles. The Rebels appear to have threatened them with

another attack on the following evening, unless supplied with food. There being only a few Sepoys at Gowineghat the Naib Darogah informed the Jynteeah Guard of the matter.

Translation of a Report of the Mohurir Naib Darogah of Pharee Gowineghat,—(dated the 26th July 1862.)

Hyder Buksh Khan.
Sheikh Pattan
Bikaram Chowkeedar.
Sheikh Goolall.
Kabil Mahomed.

DHURUM NARAIN DEB, the Naib Darogah, states, that on the 26th July, at one pahur before sunset, the persons named in the margin went to his Pharee and informed him that on the preceding day at one pahur before sunset, three Rebel Cossyahs armed with arrows, kuttras, and muskets went to Zufflong Cherra (situated within the jurisdiction of the said Pharee) to a place where Hyder Buksh has a Factory of lime-stones, and told him (Hyder Buksh) to supply them with provisions, on which he, under pretence of procuring russud from Sylhet, left the place. Subsequently, some ten or twelve armed Cossyahs went to Mouzah Assampara, in Pergunnah Jufflong, and took them, the said Sheikh Pattan, Sheikh Goolall, and Bikaram Chowkeedar and also Dowlut Manjee and other fifteen or sixteen men of Mouzah Bawoorbagh, as far as Buttong Cherra, situated near the Hills, and told the inhabitants to procure food for the Cossyahs, as also money in cash, threatening them at the same time that in case of their not complying they (Cossyahs) would set fire to their villages. The Villagers said they would give provisions after fifteen days, and under this excuse effected their escape; they have also seen twenty or twenty-five armed Rebels near the above Cherra, who told them that there were 500 Cossyahs who encamped themselves at Chotoo Baroee Poonjee. Mahomed Kabil informed the Naib Darogah that he went on the said date to Dawookee Ghat, in Zufflong, to purchase betel, and there he saw 200 Cossyahs armed with arrows, kuttras, and muskets.

The Naib Darogah further states that Pergunnah Zufflong is situated close to the Hills and it is likely that the Cossyahs will attack it, he has therefore reported the matter for necessary orders. There are one Havildar, one Naick, and twelve Sepoys at Gowineghat, and they have been informed of what is said to have taken place.

Memorandum from S. H. C. TAYLER, Esq., Magistrate of Sylhet,—(No. 724, dated the 30th July 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Commissioner of Circuit for his information.

Translation of a Report from the Darogah of Thannah Jynteeahpoor,—(dated the 26th July 1862.)

THE Subadar of the Guard stationed here informed me this morning that he has learnt from a letter, dated 21st July, addressed to him by Ramshah Sing, Havildar of the Local Battalion, that the Rebel Cossyahs have come to Dowkey Bazar, near Pharee Gowineghat; that one hundred men are assembled at Darang Poonjee, the same number at Battang Cherra Poonjee, and fifty at Nagaree Poonjee. The said Havildar also stated that he had seen rice and dried fish to the amount of about 2,000 maunds were stored at Lukut Bazar, that on his representing the matter to the Rajah of Lukut, the Rajah replied that he knew nothing about it.

Memorandum from S. H. C. TAYLER, Esq., Magistrate of Sylhet,—(No. 725, dated the 30th July 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Commissioner of Circuit, Dacca Division, for information.

Translation of Report from the Darogah of Thannah Jynteeahpore,—(dated the 26th July 1862.)

I AM engaged in carrying out your orders conveyed by a Perwannah, dated the 25th July, directing me to prevent persons entering the Jynteeah and Cossyah Hills by any other routes than Jynteeahpore.

It is well known that there are two roads, one from this *viâ* Burghât, and another *viâ* Seereepore, to the Hills. Numbers of the Cossyahs come down by these and take away provisions in abundance, stating that they are friendly to Government.

That Captain *Walkett*, (?) Commanding Officer of the 33rd Regiment stationed at Burghât, and Captain Robinson, of the 28th, stationed at Seereepore object to any measures being taken to prevent the progress of the Hill men by the two roads stated above. Moreover, I beg to add that the Guards under the above gentlemen generally carry provisions by these roads. An order on this point is therefore requested.

From J. D. GORDON, ESQ., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Commissioner of the Dacca Division,—(No. 391T., dated on board the Lieutenant-Governor's Yacht *Rhotas*, the 1st September 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 211, dated the 14th ultimo, with enclosures, regarding the appearance, in Pergunnah Jynteeah, in Sylhet, of a body of Cossyahs.

2. In reply I am desired to say that information of occurrences such as those reported should always be communicated by the Magistrate to the Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Cossyah Hills.

3. The matter does not, in the present instance, seem to be of importance, as to require that any of the Troops at Sylhet should march in the direction of Jynteeahpore; but if any part of the District of Sylhet needs Military protection, it is the duty of the Magistrate to call on the Officers Commanding the Troops there for such assistance as may be necessary (according to the orders in force for the requisition of Troops by Local Civil Authorities), but the responsibility of acting then rests with the Commanding Officers.

4. That the Troops at Sylhet are under the orders of the General Commanding the Presidency Division is no reason why the Local Civil Officer should not call upon the Officers Commanding those Troops for assistance if it be really needed.

From MAJOR J. C. HAUGHTON, Officiating Commissioner and Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, to the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 31C., dated the 14th August 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit, herewith, copy of a Report from Captain Morton, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor. I propose to submit my observations thereon hereafter, at present it appears to me that new arrangements would be premature. Captain Morton has been fully informed as to the policy he is to adopt towards the Hill Tribes in rebellion.

From Captain B. W. D. Morton, Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to Major Agnew, Judicial Commissioner in charge of the Commissioner's Office in Assam, Gowhatty,—(dated the 9th July 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 15, dated the 26th ultimo, forwarding Mr. Secretary Eden's letter No. 1179 of the 14th idem, on the subject of the instructions given by General Showers, C. B., to me. Your communication was delayed on the road and reached me only the day before yesterday.

2. In compliance with the intimation conveyed in the 5th paragraph of Mr. Eden's letter, I take the earliest opportunity of submitting a Report as to the future settlement of this District, "and the system upon which its affairs in all Departments, Judicial, Revenue, and Police, should hereafter be administered." On the complete restoration of order I may have to suggest a few extra details. My opinion on the general system which ought to be adopted, formed after a studious perusal of the Reports by Messrs. Mills and Allen, and after careful enquiry amongst both Europeans and Natives, will not, I think, be altered.

3. I wish, in the first place, to offer a few remarks on the causes which led to an almost general revolt in a District containing between 40,000 and 50,000 inhabitants. In doing so, I must advert briefly to the history of that tract of country.

4. The District known as the Jynteeah Hills, which lies to the east of the Cossyah Hills (Proper), was ceded by the late Rajah of Jynteeahpore to the British Government in the year 1835. The Rajah had previously but little communication with his Hill subjects. He annually received, as a token of supremacy, a he-goat from each village and the services of a few men for the cultivation of his Rajlands. The Hill villages, thus left to themselves, were independent in all but name, and the result was that the democratic spirit, characteristic in a measure of the Khassia race in general, was rendered still more prevalent amongst the inhabitants of the Jynteeah range.

5. On these Hills first becoming British Territory, the only alteration made in the position of the inhabitants appears to have been the relinquishment of the cultivation of the Rajlands, which were

accordingly taken possession of by the Dolloyes, or Chiefs of Villages (vide Allen's Report, paragraph 271.)

This circumstance, of course, tended to foster the independent spirit to which I have already referred, as the services of a certain number of Hill men were no longer insisted on as heretofore. In the year 1850 a slight alteration was made in the appointment of Dolloyes. Still elected by their people, these Chiefs were appointed for three years instead of one.

From the year 1841 to the close of the rebellion of 1860, the Dolloyes had the power of deciding Civil suits to the value of Rupees 50, and petty Criminal suits in which their relatives, dependants, and other Chiefs were not concerned. After the suppression of the rebellion of 1860, these Dolloyes were, I believe, invested with higher powers. My Office being at Cherra, and the direct Dâk route not being available, I am unable to furnish details of the powers at present held by them.

6. Of the character of these Chiefs and the chance which the Jynteeah Ryots had of obtaining justice at their hands, the following terse observations by Mr. Allen are admirably illustrative :—

Allen's Report, paragraph 246.—With reference to the triennial election.—"No doubt this was an improvement on the former practice. The Dolloyes are bad enough now, but they were decidedly worse under the former regime." Paragraphs 253 and 255.—In speaking of the administration of justice.—"The first step towards a reform in the administration of public affairs in the fifteen Dolloyeships ought, I think, to be to abolish at once the office of Pathor, and to strictly prohibit any interference on the part of the Langdeos in Judicial matters; there should be no vicarious agency. All the duties of each Dolloyeship should be discharged by the Dolloye in person. The great curse of the present system is, that there are so many expensive, corrupt, fruitless, and unnecessary investigations and decisions even in the smallest matters. In the Mofussil, in each Illaqua, there ought to be only one authority and one decision; what is done there should be done by one Dolloye and one Durbar; then, at all events, whatever may be the result, whether the aggrieved finds justice or meets with additional wrong, there will be only one Dolloye to propitiate and one Durbar to bribe; there will be no waste of time, no mockery of justice before a greedy Deputy and a grasping Village Priest."

Of the Dolloyes themselves, whom, in mitigation of existing evils, he would still retain, Mr. Allen writes:—"It is to me quite a mystery how some of the Dolloyes and Sirdars who visited me are able to transact the commonest village duties at all."

7. Since the deputation of Mr. Mills in 1853 Government had seriously entertained the proposal to lay a moderate tax upon their Jynteeah subjects. This proposal was supported by Mr. Allen, who recommended the imposition of a House Tax.*

* Allen's Report, paragraph 267.

8. A House Tax was, in the year 1860, accordingly imposed. Within a few months a rebellion broke out in the Hills. The Regiment, under the command of Colonel Richardson, at that time was fortunately 1,200 Strong. The rebellion was ostensibly crushed in the course of a couple of months and the Rebel Leaders seized. Unfortunately these men were, for the most part, fined in small sums instead of being hung.

9. Subsequent events have abundantly shewn that the Rebel Chiefs (influential men so constituted, in many instance, after the breaking out of the rebellion) foiled in 1860, only bided their time. They had not to wait long. The Income Tax was imposed in the early part of 1861, and taking advantage of it, and the many rumours which were rife in Assam and the Hills themselves regarding the License Tax, and those on Tobacco, Fruit Trees, &c., &c., these Chiefs had little difficulty in persuading their too credulous followers, that the Government was bent on oppressing them. The rapid concentration of Troops in 1860 and the consequent discomfiture of the Rebels were events of too recent date, however, to admit of an immediate rising. In the course of 1861 Colonel Richardson's Regiment was reduced from 1,200 to 600 Strong, and the Jynteeah Chiefs, wisely reckoning that the time for action had come, at once rose in rebellion.

10. Their preparations, however, had been made before-hand; stores of grain and food had evidently been cautiously laid in, and it had been agreed that certain of the villages, to be used as harbours of refuge in the event of discomfiture, were to remain ostensbily friendly to Government. The part these friendly villages have played in the rebellion I have already brought (directly) to the notice of Government.

11. The little band under the gallant guidance of Colonel Richardson at once took the field, and, in a remarkably short space of time, stormed nearly every stockade the Rebels had run up. But their numbers were too small to admit of their improving their victory; and before reinforcements could be sent up the Rebels had taken to the "Koorungs" or deep jungly dells where, as General Showers, C. B., himself found, it was impossible for regular Troops to come up with them.

12. The Chiefs, well knowing that the mistakes of 1860 would not be repeated, and that the break-up of the rebellion must seal their own doom, wisely did their best to compromise their misguided followers. In more than one instance the most cold-blooded murders have marked the course of the present rebellion. I am credibly informed that the mass of Rebels are now fully impressed with the belief, sedulously instilled into their minds by their Chiefs, that should they give in, the males will be doomed to perpetual slavery, and the women consigned to the tender mercies of the native soldiery.

13. I have briefly sketched the history of the Jynteeah Hills from the year 1835. It now remains for me to draw my conclusions. To my mind these appear so obvious that I am sure I shall not be misunderstood in expressing myself plainly. My opinion has been founded on the dearly bought experience of others, and such as it is, I beg to submit it.

14. To say that the taxes have occasioned the rebellion would be to express but half the truth. In my humble opinion the circumstances under which the taxes were imposed have more to do with the question. Had the inhabitants of the Jynteeah Hills been gradually brought to know their master, and had speedy justice and the establishment of schools, in the first instance, taught them the great advantages attending their subjection to a civilized Government, I am perfectly convinced that treble the amount of tax would have been cheerfully paid.

15. A contrary line of policy, however, had been steadily adhered to. With the exception of Jowai, by no means a centrical position, there was not a Post or Thannah in the Hills.

The people themselves, independent in all but name, were at the beck of the most influential amongst their number.

Their first real acquaintance with Government commenced in 1860, when the long threatened House Tax was imposed. In 1861 savages

(for the Jynteeah Khassiahs are little else), entirely illiterate, were presented with form 7, Act. XXXII., and directed to fill in their incomes. Is it to be wondered at that the Khassiahs rebelled in 1860? or is it surprising that, foiled in that year by the overwhelming number of Troops, they should have repeated the experiment in 1861, on those Troops being reduced to half their former strength?

16. Other causes than those alluded to have been assigned by the Khassiahs themselves for the present revolt, such as interference, on the part of the Police and others, with their religious ceremonies. A Naib Darogah, on one occasion, is said to have dispersed a party of armed men, who, however, had only assembled for the purpose of worship. The Native Christians, again, are said to have given offence by cultivating land set apart for religious purposes. These, and such like circumstances, though they were probably made use of by the leaders to incite the rebellion, would never, I believe, have occasioned it had the Jynteeah Khassiahs been familiarized from the first with our Government, and learned, by experience on the spot, the readiness of the Officers of Government to listen to and investigate all grounds of complaint.

17. Having stated the causes which, in my opinion, directly and indirectly, led to the revolt, it remains to suggest the steps which ought to be taken to prevent a recurrence of it. The rebellion, once subdued, and the Rebel Chiefs punished in proportion to their deserts, I am of opinion that a policy, the reverse of what has been hitherto pursued, should be adopted; while harsh and unpopular measures are carefully avoided, no opportunity should be lost, on the one hand, of neutralizing the power which the Heads of villages, in too many instances, prejudicially exercise, and on the other, of making both Chiefs and people look up to, and depend upon, Government for their happiness and comfort.

18. With regard to the system of administration in the three Departments, Revenue, Judicial, and Police, which I propose, I have the honor to state that, in the first place, the earliest opportunity should be taken for the establishment of a Sub-Division in the Jynteeah Hills under a Military Assistant Commissioner. Jowai has been recommended as a good site for such a Sub-Division, but, for my own part, I do not consider it sufficiently centrical. I consider that some spot in the Balliong Illaqua should be selected.

19. JUDICIAL.—The power at present held by the Dolloyes of adjudicating petty and Criminal suits should be withdrawn, and suitors referred to the Assistant Commissioner in Ralliong. The people would then be taught to look to the Government Officers for justice. The Assistant should, I think, hold the powers of a First Class Subordinate Magistrate and Sudder Ameen. The Hill men should be encouraged to refer their suits to arbitration; the Arbitrators, however, sitting in presence of the Assistant. Mere village arbitration should not be accepted as decisive of a suit, though the circumstance of parties having agreed to abide by the verdict of one or more Arbitrators should, as in Assam, be admitted in evidence. No Agents or Counsel, under any pretence, should be admitted in the Jynteeah Court, and the proceedings should, as recommended by Mr. Allen (paragraph 259), be conducted in the simplest manner, except in heinous cases, the entire record being in the Assistant's own handwriting. The proceedings in heinous cases, not exceeding the powers of the Deputy Commissioner, should be taken down by the Assistant in English and forwarded for orders, it remaining optional with the Deputy Commissioner to summon the parties to his Court. Other heinous cases should, of course, be heard by the Deputy Commissioner himself in the usual manner. All appeals, Civil and Criminal, from the order of the Assistant Commissioner should lie to the Deputy Commissioner at Shilliong.

20. REVENUE.—In Revenue cases the Assistant should hold his proceedings in his Agency Court. The few cases likely to occur being heard and decided in the same simple manner.

The Dolloyes should, I think, be still selected by the people, but their appointment should be for life, or during good behaviour, and liable to cancelment by the Deputy Commissioner on regular investigation of alleged malpractice. The collection of Revenue should still rest with them, commission of 20 (twenty) per cent. being allowed to the Dolloye. Each Dolloye should be furnished with printed receipts for distribution to those from whom he may collect the Revenue. The Deputy Commissioner or Assistant should make a point of annually visiting the principal villages in each Dolloyeship with a view of disposing, summarily on the spot, of all charges against the Dolloye of malpractice. I beg here, most respectfully, to suggest that all questions

regarding the Revenue of the Jynteeah Hills should be decided by Government itself in communication with the Agent to the Governor General at Gowhatty, and that all Returns should be forwarded through the same Authority to Government, instead of, as at present, through the Commissioner to the Board of Revenue.

21. POLICE.—It will be necessary, for some years, to keep a larger regular force than formerly in the Hills. Troops must, I am of opinion, be stationed at both Jowai and Ralliong under the command of European Officers. The Officer Commanding in the Hills will be the best judge of the strength required, but I should say 150 men at the former, and 250 men at the latter Station, would be sufficient.

1 Jowai Poonjee.
2 Sub-Division Head-Quarters in Ralliong.
3 Nongjoongee Poonjee.
4 Dumwai Poonjee.
5 Nongtloot Poonjee.
6 Pitting Bazar.

The Police would be stationed with advantage at the Posts noted in the margin.

22. I have already hinted at the necessity of educating the Jynteeah Khassiahs. The Missionaries had a settlement at Jowai and will probably return to it on the restoration of order. A Government Bengalee School should, I think, be established at the Sub-Division Head-Quarters in the Ralliong Illaqua; other Schools might afterwards be established, should that at Ralliong prove successful.

23. It is all-important that the communications in the Jynteeah Hills, and indeed throughout the District, should receive the earliest attention of Government. The District and Sub-Division Head-Quarters should be connected with each other and the several Police Stations. To do the Hills justice an Executive Officer should, on the settlement of the country, be deputed to Jowai. He would find abundance of occupation for a twelve month at least. His attention should first be turned to the bridging of the rivers over which his roads will pass. A road without bridges is useless, whereas with rivers made passable Troops could move all over the Hills. There is a fair road between Cherra Poonjee and Jowai; but for want of a bridge across the Mungot communication is closed for days at a time.

25. I have the honor to forward a rough Map of the Jynteeah Hills, in which I have jotted down the relative positions of the several places referred to in this Report.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED to the Junior Secretary to Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding Jynteeah Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Assistant Adjutant-General,—(No. 59, dated the 27th June 1862.)

SIR,

SINCE my last of the 16th June the rains have set in with such violence as to stop the Dâks, as well as to prevent all communication with the out-posts, which have suffered much for want of proper provisions.

I enclose a letter from Lieutenant Sadlier, Commanding at Satongah. Coolies were sent out on the morning of the 25th to bring in his Detachment. It is quite impossible to send him loaded Coolies when rain falls, and I had no supplies to send him beyond two days rations.

I enclose a letter from Captain Robinson. I shall, when Coolies are procurable, order him in and send him to Nongtalong to relieve a party of the 44th now there, as it is reported the Rebels are in some strength in that direction, and at all events he can feed himself there.

I intend to withdraw Lieutenant Campbell from Barato, leaving him with seventy men at Shillong Muntang; the remainder of his men I shall probably place in the villages between Nurteng and Shillong Muntang to enable me to communicate readily with him; the communication between Munsow and that place being cut off by the river, besides being necessarily dangerous from the facilities offered by that route for an ambuscade.

I trust the Brigadier-General will recognize the necessity for these alterations in his plans: the Rebels of the three villages named shew no sign of coming in, and many of them are located in the villages about Nurteng and Nonjoongee. I consider, therefore, that these guards may be advantageously employed in preventing their finding shelter in this way. But this is not the point; the Detachments cannot be maintainnd in their present positions.

We have received no supplies from Jynteeahpore for the ten days during which rain has fallen. I have received no Report from Amwai

lately, but as Lieutenant Pakenham is in a friendly village, I have no doubt he has been able to feed his Detachment.

Lieutenant Campbell's men have been living on dhan since the 10th, and will, I fear, be very sickly.

We shall probably have a few day's fine weather, which will enable me to make the above movements, and I will let you know all that is going on.

Copy of a letter from LIEUTENANT SADLIER, Commanding at Satongah, to LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON, Coommanding Jynteeah Force,—(dated the 23rd June 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to request you will be good enough to bring to the notice of the Brigadier-General, Commanding Presidency Division, that up to this date the men of my Detachment have been for five days on half rations, and for five days without rations. Had it not been that I had some dhan in store my men would have before this been starved.

This dhan will be out in a day or two. If before that time I do not receive russud, starvation will oblige me to abandon this post. My Coolies are all at Jowai, and, in the event of my being obliged to abandon this place, I have no carriage for my sick or magazine.

I am in a difficult position, but then starvation will carry the day. My men cannot starve.

From CAPTAIN ROBINSON, Commanding Detachment, 28th Native Infantry, to the Staff Officer of the Force,—(dated the 24th June 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of Colonel Richardson, Commanding in the Jynteeah Hills, that my Detachment has now been for three days without russud. I would beg some should be sent me at once if practicable.

I have, in the absence of anything else, been issuing dhan to my men, but it is impossible they can continue on this alone for many days.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED for submission to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. On the 26th May, before leaving Cherra Poonjee, I issued instructions for a month's supply of dry provisions, such as would not spoil by keeping, to be laid in for the different posts. An extract from these instructions is herewith forwarded; and as there was a large supply of unhusked rice at Munsow, which is one day's march from Satongah, and only a few hours march from the other posts, there would have been no difficulty in laying in a month's supply of rice and the remaining articles of the rations, such as dal, ghee, salt. A few Coolies could have carried for each Detachment. There would, therefore, have been no necessity for withdrawing the out-posts from want of provisions, if these instructions had been attended to.

It is much to be regretted that the out-posts were withdrawn. The Rebels had been hunted from all their Koorungs and lurking places, and had taken shelter in the distant jungles of Nongfloot. They were reduced to plunder the villages that had settled down, and to shew themselves the general enemics of the District. By withdrawing the out-posts we left an offensive position, which commanded the country, for a defensive one.

It is the more to be regretted it was done so soon after the massacre of the Guard of the 33rd Native Infantry between Munsow and Jowai.

Before I left two Coolie Corps were directed to be formed, and the only difficulty which at that time presented itself was the sanction of Government, and this had been anticipated. I am quite satisfied it would have been completed if it had been left in the hands of Mr. Smith, of the Civil Service, to whom I had entrusted the duty.

Extract from letter of Instructions to the Officer Commanding in the Jynteeah Hills, —(No. 186, dated the 26th May 1862.)

PARA. 2.—The Officer Commanding the District will arrange to lay in with each Detachment a supply of ghee, dal, salt, rice, and other articles of rations for the men that will not spoil by keeping for at least a month, so that Coolies will be required for the transport of atta

only, and of this the Commissariat Department must endeavor to send a supply for a week at one time. It will be necessary also to lay in a supply of dhan for the Coolies. This must be done in communication with the Civil Officer of the District, and supplies should be collected for a month.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED to the Secretary to Government of Bengal for the information for His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding Jynteeah Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 61, dated the 29th June 1862.)

SIR,

SINCE my No. 59 of the 27th I have the honor to report, for the information of Brigadier-General, that Lieutenant Sadlier's party from Satongah reached this on the 27th without any serious accident. Two muskets were lost in the torrent, but the weather being fine yesterday a party, sent out for the purpose, found them in six feet of water and brought them in. Lieutenant Sadlier, with fifty men, went yesterday to Nurteng with Lieutenant Andrew, and the party of the 33rd now there will return to-day. I then propose to strengthen the Munsow party to fifty men.

Lieutenant Andrew took out Coolies to carry out the alteration in the Barato party mentioned in my last. Lieutenant Campbell will remain at Shillong Muntang with eighty muskets and fifty will be posted at Nongjoongee.

I enclose two Reports from Lieutenant Walcott; they are of old date, but I only received them yesterday *viâ* Jynteeahpore, at which Post, I regret to say, great sickness prevails, which will, I fear, cause an interruption in Lieutenant Walcott's supplies. Mr. Smith goes there to-day, and he will, I hope, be able to arrange this.

Coolies will, I hope, be available to-day to bring in Captain Robinson's Detachment, which will proceed without delay to Nongtalong. Serious reports come in of the enemy collecting about there in force. In fact I find that, while we have been occupying the deserted villages in the distance, the Rebels have taken advantage of this disposition of the Troops to ravage the country and levy contributions from the friendly villages within our cordon: this has principally occurred west of Nurteng and at Nongjoongee and Nongba, and this, together with the difficulty of conveying supplies to a distance, will, I trust, induce the Brigadier-General to consider the altered disposition of the Troops as imperatively called for. Another consideration was that the pressure on the friendly villagers for such large supplies of Coolies is calculated to disgust and to induce them to quit their homes.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division.

Forwarded for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

With respect to the last paragraph one instance of a peaceful village having been visited for contributions occurred after I left Jowai, but before I left Cherra. The party was attacked, and four men who had been taken prisoners for their ransom were released and the Rebels totally dispersed.

A second village was said to have been visited, but the report was not confirmed before I left the Hills. It was about this time that I authorized Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson to draw eighty men from Sylhet if he should require reinforcements.

There were moreover about 180 Rank and File at Cherra Poonjee under Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson's own command from which he might have drawn to occupy Nongba and Nongjoongee. At Nurteng there were already thirty Sepoys, with a proportion of Non-Commissioned Officers, under a Native Officer. In addition to this a portion of the inhabitants of each village who wished it were authorized to carry their own native arms, and I can conceive no difficulty in carrying out the arrangements as long as these men were associated with British Troops.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON, Commanding Jynteeah Field Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Assistant Adjutant-General, Presidency Division,—(No. 62, dated the 3rd July 1862.)

SIR,

SINCE my last of the 29th ultimo, I have the honor to report that on the 30th a Guard of ten men of the 44th Native Infantry escorting the Dâk from Dingling were attacked by the Rebels, who appeared, in force about 200, on the Hills on this side of the Mungot. The attack was made by about forty or fifty men, who rushed down and attempted to close with the Guard, one of whom was slightly wounded with a sword-cut. The Guard, however, remained steady and their fire killed five, besides wounding several. The enemy, who then kept a more respectful distance, followed the party to within sight of camp.

A few days ago two armed Rebels were seized in the jungle overlooking Jowai; they said they had been sent to examine and report on the strength of the Guard there. From their information we learnt that the Rebels did not remain in any one place, but that a market would be held on the 2nd July at which they would appear and that the market was held early. In consequence of this information Captain Morton, Lieutenant Udny, and myself, with fifty bayonets, left camp yesterday at 1 A. M. and returned at noon, having walked continually for eleven hours. We stopped the market and seized many people going there; but the armed men, of whom we saw a great number, kept at a distance. We met Lieutenant Andrew and Lieutenant Sadlier patrolling from Nurteng, but they also were unsuccessful.

I have received letters from Lieutenant Pakenham at Amwai: he states that Rebels are about in his direction. A Coolie straying from the Column between Jynteeahpore and Amwai has been killed. The Nongbaric villagers have been driven out of their village by the Rebels:

this will be amended in a few days I trust. As Coolies go to-day to bring in Captain Robinson from Ralliong, he will proceed to Nongtalong for the protection of that part of the country.

Coolies were sent some days ago to Barato to alter the disposition of the Troops there, but I have as yet heard nothing of them. The Nongtalong party has been reinforced to thirty-eight men from Amwai till Captain Robinson arrives.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

The massacre of the Guard of the 33rd Native Infantry about the 14th June, and the withdrawal of the out-posts from an offensive to a defensive position, appears to have given the Rebels confidence. This repulse of a large Force by so small a number of Sepoys will have a salutary effect.

A party at Nongtalong has been much needed, and I had authorized Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson to draw eighty men from the Detachment at Sylhet for duty in the Hills.

I anticipate good results from Captain Robinson's presence. He is an active Officer and has shewn judgment.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding Jynteeah Field Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 64, dated the 9th July 1862.)

SIR,

SINCE my last of the 3rd instant, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General Commanding, that Lieutenant Campbell has removed his Camp from Barato to Shillong Muntang.

Fifty men have been located at Nongjoongee, and in excess of these I have sent thirty muskets to reinforce the party at Nurteng to enable them to convey supplies to Shillong Muntang, as I doubt that an escort of less than twenty-five men would be safe under the circumstances, the whole country being covered with long grass and the Rebels numerous.

Captain Robinson left this for Nongtalong on the 8th instant with 130 muskets: he will relieve the parties of the 33rd and 44th now there: they will return to Amwai and Jowai respectively.

On two occasions lately large bodies of the Rebels have appeared in the neighbourhood of Munsow, at the spot where the two Sepoys of the 44th were formerly killed, and, as they appeared to have excellent information of our movements, it became necessary to find out where they harboured, and it appeared to Captain Morton and myself that there could be no doubt but that they lived at Thakhanying, where they were in a position to take advantage of any small party passing near.

This village was accordingly visited by Lieutenant Andrew and Lieutenant Sadlier on the 6th, and, as they found the place filled with the Munsow women and property, it was, according to Lieutenant Andrew's instructions, burnt to the ground, and this, I trust, will have the effect of rendering our escorts more secure and act as a warning to other villages not to harbour Rebels. I trust the Brigadier-General will consider this act of severity necessary under the circumstances.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division.

Forwarded for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

I had forbidden all villages and the permanent residences of the people of the country being destroyed. I do not consider it now necessary.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division.

Forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding Jynteeah Field Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 67, dated the 16th July 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my No. 64 of 9th instant, I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred during the past week. We continue to get up supplies with great difficulty, consuming to-day what came up yesterday.

Lieutenant Andrew has laid in a supply of rice at Nurteng, of which there appears to be a great abundance, and this feeds the three outposts in that direction, there being no obstructions from nullahs between Nurteng and Shillong Muntang.

Captain Robinson and Lieutenant Walcott feed themselves from the Plains, and thus, I trust, we shall not again be so hard pressed as we were last month; but no improvement has, I am sorry to say, taken place in the supply of Coolies from below. No Dâks in lately.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED to the Officiating Secretary to Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding Jynteeah Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Officiating Assistant Adjutant-General,—(No. 68, dated the 19th July 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Nos. 277A., 288A., and 293A., and in reply to report, for the information

of the Brigadier-General, that the water-proof Capes and Caps have arrived and been distributed to the different posts as directed, and that measures have been taken to preserve them as far as possible.

I have written on the subject mentioned in your No. 188A. With reference to the last paragraph you will have received my letter detailing the alterations made in the position of the Troops, on which subject I have now the honor to report that during the first half of this month, during which the weather has been tolerably fine, only nine days' rations for the different out-posts fed from Jynteeahpore have arrived, but that the greater part of the men can now be partially fed from the bazars where they are located, and this, I trust, will induce the Brigadier-General to consider the changes judicious as far as supplies are concerned. No improvement has taken place in the Coolies, but every effort is making to render the carrying more efficient. More Sepoys are not at present required at Moolagool, but should there be the Detachment of the 33rd Native Infantry at Sylhet will be called on; the expedition into Munnipore having rendered it necessary that the Detachment, 44th Native Infantry, at Cachar should not be at present reduced.

The instructions regarding the Rebels being attacked, as occasions offer, shall be carried out, and a party has to-day gone to Nongbah to watch the bazar there. The instructions regarding the strength of the party to accompany Captain Morton or myself shall be attended to.

Captain Robinson has reported to Captain Morton that several of the villages near him have been burnt by the Rebels. I hope to hear particulars from him in a day or two.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding Jynteeah Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Assistant Adjutant-General,—(No. 69, dated the 20th July 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to request that you will bring to the notice of the Brigadier-General the fact of the sickness that prevails among the Officers in this Force. Lieutenant Sadlier, 28th Native Infantry, is on the sick list and obliged to leave Nurteng from fever. Lieutenant Marshall, 28th Native Infantry, is also suffering from the same cause. Of the 33rd Native Infantry only Lieutenants Walcott and Williams are in good health. The remainder, I am informed by Dr. Saunders, are suffering from a severe form of Diarrhœa, not likely to be overcome except by a change of climate. Lieutenant Graham is on sick leave to Sylhet for a month on this account, and Dr. Saunders himself is one of the greatest sufferers.

Under these circumstances I trust the Brigadier-General will consider it necessary that more Officers and an Assistant Surgeon should be sent to do duty with the Regiments. The 44th have only two doing duty Officers present.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division.

FORWARDED for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Before I left Jowai symptoms of Diarrhœa had been experienced by several Officers. It was attributed to the copper cooking vessels not having been tinned. Before leaving Cherra Poonjee I recommended that an Artificer should be entertained by the Force and kept at Jowai. I have now directed that a man may be kept up on a fixed salary. It is very probable the sickness among the Officers arises from the effects of the verdigris of the copper vessels employed for cooking.

From J. D. Gordon, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 409T., dated on board the Lieutenant-Governor's Yacht *Rhotas*, the 6th September 1862.)

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement, submitting copy of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, Commanding Jynteeah Force, dated the 20th July last, representing the necessity of more Officers being sent to do duty with the Force, I am directed to inform you that application has been made to the Government of India, in the Military Department, for the services of four experienced Officers to do duty with the 44th Native Infantry.

From Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division, to the Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, with the Lieutenant-Governor,—(No. 370A., dated the 4th August 1862.)

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for submission to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, copies of letters from Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, with my remarks.

I hope His Honor will sanction Lieutenant Walcott being allowed to remain in Command of his present Post at Batao, which, by his judgment and activity, he has settled so satisfactorily.

Memorandum from Brigadier-General St. G. D. Showers, c. b., Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 4th August 1862.)

Forwarded to the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, with the Lieutenant-Governor, for the information of His Honor.

Copy of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, Commanding Jynteeah Field Force, to Captain E. K. O. Gilbert, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 70, dated the 22nd July 1862.)

Sir,

Since my last, Nos. 68 and 69 of 19th and 20th July, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General, that I

yesterday, at 2 P. M., received a letter from Lieutenant Andrew at Noringpoonjee, stating that a report had reached him that Munsow was surrounded by 600 Rebels and that the Garrison there had fired away all their ammunition. Lieutenant Williams and Lieutenant Money left at once with sixty bayonets and some spare ammunition and reached Munsow at 6 P. M. They found that Lieutenant Andrew and Lieutenant Campbell had arrived there before them with fifty or sixty Sepoys from Nongjoongee and Shillong Muntang, but that finding all quiet they had both gone to Shillong Muntang, having heard that the Rebels had fired a portion of the village.

Lieutenant Money returned this morning. He reports all quiet now, but that for several days previously, the Rebels had kept up a pretty constant fire from twenty-four muskets, or thereabouts; and had latterly endeavoured to reach the Sepoys' lines, in which attempt, the Subadar reports, seven of them were killed. No Sepoys were hurt.

I am now sending out supplies and more ammunition to Munsow: I shall direct Lieutenant Williams and his party to return to Jowai, as they went out without their kits and besides are not wanted there.

The enclosed Report from Captain Robinson of the 16th July, reporting the burning by the Rebels of some villages to the south, I received yesterday,

N. B.—The Report from Munsow was brought by fifteen men of the 33rd, who went first to Shillong Muntang, then to Nongjoongee, and then here by 2 P. M. the same day.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 363A., dated the 4th August 1862.)

FORWARDED for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. This attack I consider to be a consequence of the burning of the village of Thakhanying. The koorangs and villages of ruins, in which the Rebels have taken shelter, should now be attacked in force and by a simultaneous movement of several Detachments. All women and children who are caught should be taken to Jowai and kept there until their husbands and fathers deliver themselves up.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division,—(dated the 4th August 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, with His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, for information.

Copy of a letter from LIEUTENANT-COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding Jynteeah Field Force, to CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army,—(No. 72, dated the 25th July 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of my No. 70, to your address, I have now the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier-General, that on the 22nd a party of fifteen Sepoys of the 33rd Native Infantry proceeding to Munsow with supplies were surrounded by armed Rebels, of whom two were killed and one wounded. Lieutenant Williams hearing the firing left Munsow to support his men, who reached that place safely. Next morning Lieutenant Williams, agreeably to orders, returned with his party to Jowai.

Yesterday Captain Morton received a letter from Nurteng requesting reinforcement there, as large bodies of the Rebels were going about between that place and Shillong Muntang. Lieutenant Money and twenty muskets, 44th Native Infantry, started at once.

Lieutenant Pakenham's parties have been much annoyed to the south of Amwai by parties of the Rebels firing at them; this has, however, ceased within the last few days, and it would appear that the Rebels are turned by Captain Robinson's arrival at Nongtalong, burnt the villages they had occupied in that direction, and have proceeded by a southerly road towards Nungba and Nongfloot. Lieutenant Andrew will enquire into this.

A party of the Rebels has also passed into the Khyrim Territory I hear, and a reinforcement has been sent from Cherra to Shillong, and Captain Morton informs me that Captain Robinson is following up the Rebels in that direction.

I have received Reports from Lieutenant Walcott, who appears to be maintaining himself at his different Posts in a most creditable manner. I do not send his Reports, as they refer to local matters, and will be useful to any Officer taking his place, should he be removed, which,

I hear, is likely, though I am at present quite unable to detach an Officer in his room, should such removal take place; there being no one Officer here for duty except Major Langmore and myself. Lieutenant Williams, 33rd, in his last expedition sprained his foot badly and will be laid up for a month.

Memorandum from BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. 364A., dated the 4th August 1862.)

FORWARDED for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

The armed parties of Rebels appearing in force between Nurteng and Shillong Muntang is probably a consequence of their having been disheartened in Thakhanying. I conclude the whole village is now in arms; they should be attacked by a simultaneous movement of different Detachments, and all women and children captured and taken to Jowai.

I anticipate good results from Captain Robinson's presence in the District of Nongtalong; he has been always successful in his movements.

As usual a favorable report is made of Lieutenant Walcott's proceedings. He is to be appointed to the Assam Commission; but I have directed that he shall be retained in his present position for the present, pending the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor.

Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson has given up his line of communication with Cherra Poonjee. It is in fact his base of operations, and it is an unfortunate error he has cut himself off from direct communication with a large portion of his Force. I have directed the communication to be restored at any exertion.

Copy of a letter from CAPTAIN E. K. O. GILBERT, to LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. RICHARDSON,—(No. 358, dated the 28th July 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed by the Brigadier-General to send you the following instructions consequent on the withdrawal of the Detachments from the advanced Posts.

2. The Rebels appear to be still moving about the country. It is now the rainy season, and there will be difficulty in moving the Troops;

but they should notwithstanding be as active as circumstances will admit, particularly after the weather clears after a continuous fall of rain.

3. The haunts of the Rebels should then be visited, and other Detachments should be sent to localities to which, it is probable, they would move after being disturbed in their then hiding places.

4. Moveable Columns should also be sent through the District in all weathers; their strength will depend on circumstances, and the Commanding Officer alone, in communication with the Deputy Commissioner, is capable of judging what that strength should be.

5. Great advantage will be obtained in tracing the Rebels by following any beaten tracks and foot-paths that the Detachments may meet with.

6. Our lines of communication should be preserved at any expense and exertion. If the Rebels are heard of along the line a moveable Column of such strength as may be necessary should be posted in the vicinity to watch and attack them when the opportunity offers.

Memorandum from MAJOR J. C. HAUGHTON, Officiating Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 74, dated the 20th August 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

Memorandum from CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(dated the 18th August 1862.)

FORWARDED, in original, to the Commissioner of Assam, in continuation of my letter to the Commissioner's address, dated the 14th instant. The Rebels state that their rebellion was owing to interference with their religious ceremonies. Major Rowlatt informed me that no such interference was reported to him, and I should like to examine the Chiefs personally before stating how far credence is to be attached to their story. The Chiefs will not come in unless it is guaranteed that they are neither capitally punished nor transported. The second is a condition offered by men in arms, and ought not, I think, to be listened to. In my opinion free pardon to all but cold-blooded murderers, on the original terms laid down by General Showers, C. B., to wit, pardon to the mass of Rebels, and guarantee

of life only to the Chiefs, should be offered. In my letter of the 4th, and in subsequent communications, I have solicited the Commissioner's orders on the subject, and until I hear from the Commissioner definitely it will be impossible for me to reply to the Rebels.

From J. B. SHADWELL, ESQ., Assistant Commissioner in charge, Cherra Poonjee, to CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, (No. , dated the 16th August 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward, in original, a letter, dated 16th instant, to my address, from Hajun Manick Rajah, communicating the result of the enquiries he was asked to make in your letter to me of the 4th idem.

True Translation of HAJUN MANICK's letter to the Assistant Commissioner,— (dated the 16th August 1862.)

IN the Translation, with which I was furnished, of the Deputy Commissioner's letter dated 4th August, I was asked to ascertain the cause of the present rebellion, and if it were from interruption of any Poojah, to inquire why stockades were put up prior to the said interruption occurring. The Rebels inform me, through a person I sent to speak to them, that stockades were never erected by them before their Poojah was put a stop to. That they had permission from Major Rowlatt to perform their Poojah. It accordingly was commenced, but on its being interrupted by the Police on the third day, the people for this interruption rebelled. The Rebels further tell me that they will come in on the terms asked for before, that is, if any should be punished, the punishment, it is guaranteed, not to extend to hanging or transportation.

From J. D. GORDON, ESQ., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to MAJOR J. C. HAUGHTON, Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 436, dated on board the Yacht *Rhotas*, the 8th September 1862.)

SIR,

THE Lieutenant-Governor having seen Captain Morton and some of the Cossyah Chiefs at Cherra Poonjee, having perused the papers

sent with your Memoranda No. 23, dated 25th ultimo, and No. 74, dated 20th ultimo, and having received further verbal information of the inclination of the Rebel Chiefs to surrender (availing themselves of the mediation of Hajun Manick and the Jynteeah Kooer, who left Sylhet for the Jynteeah Hills on the 1st instant), desires me to communicate the following instructions in continuation of those conveyed in my letters Nos. 199T., dated 31st July, and 352T., dated 30th ultimo.

2. The surrender of the Rebels, in order to entitle them to the benefit of the full pardon which has been offered to them, must be otherwise an unconditional surrender. They must be made to understand that complaints from persons in rebellion cannot be listened to; that they must submit themselves absolutely to the authority of the Government; that no suspension of military operations will take place until the rebellion is over, and that those who foolishly refuse to accept the offer of pardon will not only themselves be punished with severity, but will incur the responsibility of the consequences in which, as they now know, such persistent defiance must inevitably continue to involve the whole Tribe.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor confidently anticipates that the Leaders will shortly make their submission, and that those of their followers who have not already returned to their homes will not fail to do so when no longer prevented by the influence or example of others. If this expectation be not disappointed the earliest favorable opportunity should be taken to withdraw the Troops from all the Outposts at which their presence is not required, and to rely upon the Police for the restoration of order and the protection of life and property.

4. The Deputy Inspector-General of Police has been authorized to place a Superintendent in charge of the Police administration of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, under the general control and direction of the Deputy Commissioner, as soon as this measure may appear practicable and expedient. With this view Major Raban and Captain Morton will act in concert as circumstances may require.

5. As it will certainly be necessary to station an Assistant Commissioner at Jowai, temporarily at least, if not as a permanent

arrangement, a Detachment of the Regiment, whose Head-Quarters are at Cherra, will have to remain there for a while after the necessity for Military operations shall have ceased; but as no other Posts need be held by Troops, the services of the second regiment of Native Infantry, now stationed in the Jynteeah Hills, may no doubt be dispensed with. It is the intention of the Lieutenant-Governor that Mr. Shadwell, who is thoroughly acquainted with the Khassyah language, should be sent to Jowai, and when he is there, Lieutenant Andrew may be withdrawn and employed elsewhere in the Division.

6. Up to this time the Government is in possession of no trustworthy information as to the causes of the rebellion, or the grievances, real or supposed, that gave rise to it. Numerous opinions have been formed and recorded, but they are for the most part conflicting, and rest rather on rumour and hearsay, than on that which alone can be regarded as a reliable foundation, namely, the statements of the Rebels themselves, and especially of those among them who are Leaders. The Lieutenant-Governor was informed when at Cherra that no depositions had been recorded; that even the Heads of the villages who had returned to their allegiance had not been examined; that no steps had been taken to ascertain from the Rebel Leaders what they had, to complain of, and that the accounts given of the origin of the rebellion had been obtained chiefly through the Rajah of Cherra and the Native Christians, to neither of whom is it to be supposed that the Rebels would have communicated either their intention to oppose the Government, or their reasons for it.

7. In the absence of any reliable information on this head it is impossible for the Lieutenant-Governor to form a satisfactory judgment as to what changes may be necessary in order to make the administration of the Jynteeah Hills more acceptable to the people than it hitherto seems to have been, what just causes of complaint exist, and how they may be removed. The Deputy Commissioner should be desired to lose no opportunity of supplying this omission, an omission which has been repeatedly dwelt on by the Government from the very commencement of the outbreak. It should be carefully asked of all who are capable of giving the information, and especially of those by whose counsel the rebellion was determined on, whether this determination

was caused, as has been variously stated, by circumstances connected with the outbreak of 1860 and its suppression; by the mode in which the people were then deprived of their arms; by the House Tax; by the Income Tax, or the mode of assessing it; by the interference of the Police with any Poojah or other religious ceremony; by the conduct or conversation of the Native Christians; by the inaccessibility, indifference, or unpopularity of the late Deputy Commissioner; by the venality of the Court Officers, and especially of the person employed by Major Rowlatt as Interpreter and Darogah; by any instances of oppression or denial of justice; by a general desire of independence; by a wish to restore the authority of the late Rajah or any of his family; by the act of the Military Guard at Jowai in firing on the assembled crowd; or by any or all of these causes combined. It should also be exactly ascertained why the Khassiahs did not bring such grievances as they had to complain of to the notice of the District Officer, and what objects they proposed to themselves in rushing into rebellion instead of seeking redress of their grievances by peaceable means, or even letting it be known that they had any to be redressed.

8. The House Tax must, under any circumstances, continue to be levied as heretofore, due regard being paid to any complaints of inequality or injustice in the assessment of it. The Income Tax has been virtually abandoned in the Jynteeah Hills for the future, by the Act which repeals it on all incomes below 500 Rupees a year; but the arrears of 1860-61 must be collected, careful attention being given to any allegations of improper assessment, and time being allowed for payment to those who have suffered from the loss of property during the disturbances.

9. There are two subjects connected with the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills in which immediate action is called for irrespective of the enquiry enjoined above. These are Schools and Roads.

10. The Lieutenant-Governor entertains little doubt that, if the inhabitants of the Jynteeah Hills had been somewhat less ignorant than they are, they would not, either in 1860 or on the late occasion, have thrown off their allegiance to the Government, or sought redress of their wrongs in rebellion. If they had possessed a written language which the chief men among them could write and read, and which was known

to the District Officer, or if they had been able to communicate with him directly, either in English or Bengalee, instead of being obliged to approach him through an Interpreter, he would not have been kept in ignorance either of their feelings or of their designs. If they had possessed even the elementary knowledge taught in the Vernacular Schools of Bengal, they would have known the hopelessness of armed opposition to the Government. To educate the Cossyahs, therefore, is a duty the discharge of which is forced upon the Government as a means no less of governing these Hills than of improving the condition of the people.

11. General Showers, in his Report on the administration of the Jynteeah Hills, dated the 9th June last, of which an extract is given in the margin, and in his subsequent Report of the 4th August, recommends an extension of the present system by increasing the grant made to the Welsh Presbyterian Mission, from Rupees 150 to Rupees 250 a month, for the support of more Cossyah Schools, as soon as the District is settled and the School Houses are built. In this recommendation the Lieutenant-Governor entirely concurs, and instructions will be sent to the Director of Public Instruction

The last subject connected with the Jynteeah Hills which it remains for me to notice is the establishment of Schools among the Sintengs. They have no prejudice against learning from European Teachers either secular or religious instruction. Their feelings are free and open, and they are prepared to learn either through the medium of the Bengalee or the Roman character.

A Welsh Presbyterian Mission has been established here for some years, and the present Minister in charge of the Mission has gained completely the confidence of all the villagers. He goes freely among them, and is received everywhere with kindness and good will. He understands their character and the extent of instruction that should be given them. There are few men who at the present time are better adapted to be entrusted with the grant-in-aid that Government may be induced to give for educational objects.

I beg to annex a List of Poonjees in which Schools could be established, and the cost of each, which has been furnished me by Mr. Jones. The whole amount asked for might be sanctioned. Mr. Jones' exertions would, I am confident, effect a great improvement in the character and intelligence of the inhabitants.

A contingent allowance should be sanctioned, on application, for the purchase of implements for industrial pursuits, such as would be useful in domestic life, and which laborers would be willing to work with. From the want of implements great labor is required to cut the roughest planks. Only two planks are obtained from the finest oak. A pit saw is an implement which they would at once feel the advantage of, and which they would gladly use.

The School established by Mr Jones is to teach the pupils but the first rudiments of learning, reading, writing, and arithmetic. It is taught in their own language in the Roman character, and will serve for those only who have no dealings or intercourse out of their own village or illaqua. As a medium of general instruction there are many objections against it; but for the Sintengs it will be of use, as they who attend Mr. Jones' School would probably attend no other.

For those who have transactions in other Districts Bengalee Schools will be required, and I would recommend the Superintendent should be called on to submit a Statement of the number of Schools that might be established with the probability of their being attended. With this should be forwarded the names of the villages in which the Schools should be formed, with the Establishment for each, and cost of building the School-rooms and supplying books, &c., and the implements required for instruction in industrial pursuits.

authorizing this increase, as Mr. Jones, the Missionary, reports that the additional School Houses are built, and the people ready to receive their teachers. The money will be forthcoming from the amount provided in the Budget for grants-in-aid.

12. I am further directed to request that you will desire the Deputy Commissioner, in consultation with Mr. Jones, to draw up a scheme for the further extension of education in the Khassiah and Jynteeah Hills and the plan upon which it is to be pursued. The scheme should include a settlement of the questions whether only Khassiah should be taught in the village Schools, or whether it should be combined with Bengalee, and whether Khassiah should be taught in the Bengalee or the Roman character in the different dialects of each part of the Hills, or in one common dialect for the whole. It should also provide for the establishment of an English or Anglo-Vernacular School at the Sudder Station, and a normal class for the education of Teachers for the village Schools. The Lieutenant-Governor would be inclined to leave the whole management of all the Schools in the District, from the highest to the lowest, in the hands of the Welsh Mission, subject only to the inspection of an Officer appointed, under the authority of the Inspector of the North-East Circle, for this special purpose; but on this point His Honor awaits your opinion before coming to a decision. You will submit a Report on the subject, at your earliest convenience, to the Director of Public Instruction.

13. The next subject is that of Roads. It is much to be feared that the destruction of the grain stored in the Jynteeah villages and the suspension of agricultural operations throughout the greater part of the disturbed country has already produced great distress, and that the scarcity now existing is likely to be much more severely felt before the next harvest. The people, it is believed, have neither food nor the means of buying it. It is therefore obviously desirable to take advantage of the demand for employment which is likely immediately to follow the pacification of the disturbed country, by expending a moderate sum of money on the roads most urgently needed, and thus at once to provide the means of feeding a starving population and of opening up the communications necessary both for traffic and for administrative

purposes. The Lieutenant-Governor has received fom Captain Morton a rough Memorandum, as per margin, of the Roads chiefly required. Of these he is prepared to undertake the construction, and the Lieutenant-Governor will apply to the Government of India for a special grant of 12,000 Rupees to be expended this season on the routes numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8, and on so much of each of the others as can be accomplished. The construction of the Road from Jowai to Assaloo was sanctioned long ago, and the work was suspended only in consequence of the Mutinies.

		Rs.
1.	From Cherra to Lylonkot, to be widened and repaired, distance twenty miles, at Rs. 150 per mile ...	3,000
2.	From Lylonkot to Pourriong, new Road, distance twenty miles, at Rs. 200 a mile	4,000
3.	From Pourriong to Nurteng, new Road, eight miles, at Rs. 200 a mile	1,600
4.	From Pourriong to Jowai, sixteen miles, at Rs. 200 a mile	3,200
5.	From Jowai to Assaloo, a new Road, distance sixty miles, at Rs. 200 a mile	12,000
6.	From Jowai to Jynteeahpore, distance thirty-two miles, at Rs. 50 a mile	1,600
7.	From Nurteng to Assam, new Road, distance not known, about fifty miles, at Rs. 200 a mile ...	10,000
8.	From Lylonkot to Shilliong, and Yeadoo, *viâ* Nongkrem, twelve miles, at Rs. 200 a mile	2,400

14. A copy of this letter will be sent direct to the Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills for his speedier information and guidance, but you will supplement it with any further instructions you may think necessary.

No. 437T.

Copy forwarded to Captain Morton, Deputy Commissioner, in charge of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, for information.

No. 3187.

Extract, paragraphs 11 and 12, forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction for information and guidance.

No. 3188.

Extract, paragraphs 11 and 12, forwarded to the Civil Pay-Master for information and guidance.

No. 3189.

Extract, paragraphs 11 and 12, forwarded to the Deputy Auditor and Accountant-General, Bengal, for information and guidance.

No. 3323.

EXTRACT, paragraph 13, forwarded to the Public Works Department of this Office in order that Rupees 12,000 may be at once placed at the disposal of Captain Morton, Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Khassiah Hills, for making Roads during the approaching cold season.

From J. D. GORDON, ESQ., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—No. 438T., dated on board the Yacht *Rhotas*, the 8th September 1862.)

SIR,

IN continuation of former correspondence regarding the affairs of the Khassiah and Jynteeah Hills, I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to submit, for the information of the Governor General in Council, the papers noted in the margin.

Memorandum from Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, No. 23, dated 25th ultimo.
Memorandum from Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, No. 74, dated 20th ultimo.
Letter to Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, No. 199T., dated 31st July 1862.
From Brigadier-General Showers, dated the 9th June 1862.
From Brigadier-General Showers, dated 4th August 1862.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor desires especially to draw the attention of His Excellency in Council to the last paragraph but one of my letter* of this date to the Commissioner of Assam, and to recommend that a special grant of 12,000 Rupees may be made immediately available for the construction of roads in the Khassiah and Jynteeah Hills. The labor employed will be exclusively that of the inhabitants of the District.

* No 436T.

3. The want of these roads is much felt, and the construction of them at the present time will probably have the effect of preventing crime and disturbance, as well as of allaying, in some measure, the feelings of irritation against the Government which gave rise to the rebellion, and are not likely to have been soothed by the means unavoidably taken for its suppression.

From E. C. BAYLEY, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to J. D. GORDON, ESQ., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 5196, dated the 25th September 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 438T., dated the 8th instant, enclosing correspondence regarding the

affairs in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, and recommending that a special grant of Rupees 12,000 may be made immediately available for the construction of roads in those parts.

2. In reply I am directed to state that the Governor General in Council entirely approves of the proposed expenditure, which can probably be provided from the general Public Works Budget of the Bengal Government. Should, however, His Honor be unable to make provision for it, his application for an additional grant will, in that case, be referred to the Public Works Department for favorable consideration.

3. General Showers remarks on the coal and mineral productions of the Cossyah Hills, and the Lieutenant-Governor will doubtless not lose sight of that Officer's suggestions on this point.

No. 3438.

Copy forwarded for the information of the Secretary in the Public Works Department, in continuation of endorsement No. 3323, dated 24th instant, with a request that he will be so good as to state whether the expenditure can be met from the Public Works Budget grant.

Memorandum from MAJOR J. C. HAUGHTON, Officiating Agent to the Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 25, dated the 29th August 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, for the information of the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor, with an intimation that all proscription has been withdrawn.

From CAPTAIN, B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to MAJOR J. C. HAUGHTON, Agent to the Governor General, North-East Frontier, and Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 266, dated the 21st August 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 15B., dated the 15th instant, received this morning.

2. As stated in your 2nd paragraph, I was placed in doubt owing to my having received the orders of Government to carry out the instructions of General Showers, C. B., in which it was explicitly laid down that the offer of conditional pardon could not be made to proscribed

Chiefs. To the best of my belief this list of proscribed Chiefs was forwarded by the General to Government, and I therefore presumed that, if Government were desirous I should consider that list cancelled, I should have received specific instructions to that effect. I thought it better to refer the matter. Previous to the receipt of the Government letter, I had offered, though Hajun Manick, the terms laid down by General Showers, C. B., and I calculated that I should receive your reply before the return of Hajun Manick.

3. I regret that you should be under the impression that I might still be pursuing offensive measures. On the day I received the orders of Government I passed the most stringent orders to all concerned on no account to adopt any but strictly defensive measures.

4. I shall this day forward a Proclamation to Cherra, with a request to Mr. Shadwell that the same may be delivered to Hajun Manick. A copy of this Proclamation will also be forwarded to every independent and dependent Rajah in the Cossyah Hills, and a similar copy will also be sent to my Assistant in the Jynteeah Hills, who will make the wishes of Government generally known. I hope soon to be able to report the submission of the Leaders and the gradual settlement of the Hills.

Memorandum from MAJOR J. C. HAUGHTON, Officiating Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 22, dated the 20th August 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From W. H. BROWNLOW, ESQ., Officiating Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, to the Officiating Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 102, dated the 9th August 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to bring to your notice that I have this day received the following information from the Naib Darogah of Thannah Dubokah, founded on a report made by the Mouzadar of Singeemaree (Mypathor by name), that a party of Cossyahs or Garrows, about thirty or forty strong, armed with spears, arrows, swords, and daos came into the village and assembled at a place called Ameher Pathor,

on the 2nd Shrawun and threatened to assault the fiscal Officers if they made any attempt to levy the House Tax. I have directed the Sudder Thannah Darogah to proceed to the spot with a party of ten Police Sepoys and a Naik, and ten Police Burkundauzes, with orders to apprehend the offenders, if possible, and to obtain every information as to who they are.

Memorandum from COLONEL H. F. DUNSFORD, Commanding Troops in Assam,—(No. 14, dated the 15th August 1862.)

FORWARDED for the information of Major Haughton, Agent to the Governor General, North-East Frontier.

From MAJOR R. CAMPBELL, Commanding 43rd Regiment, Native Infantry, to the Station Staff, Gowhatty,—(Dated the 13th August 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of Colonel Dunsford, C. B., Commanding in Assam, that I this morning received a Report from Jemadar Bahadoor, Commanding Detachment, 43rd Native Infantry at Nelhee, stating that at 6 P. M., on the 18th instant, in consequence of the information received from the Police, he left his Stockade with a party as per margin, and proceeded, under the guidance of some villagers, to "Duckinshahur Sohoree village," about eight miles distant S. E., where there was said to be a party of hostile Cossyahs encamped. The Detachment reached there about 2 o'clock A. M. on the 11th, and shortly afterwards surprised a party of about thirty Cossyahs, who on being challenged fired arrows at them. The Detachment then returned the fire, when the Cossyahs fled to the jungle.

1 Jemadar.
1 Havildar.
12 Sepoys.
2 Elephants.

The Jemadar states that two Cossyahs were killed and ten or twelve wounded, and two Boat Cutters from Bijnee who had been Prisoners with the Cossyahs effected their escape. None of the Jemadar's party were wounded. A quantity of bows, arrows, shields, and daos have been sent in. The party returned to their Stockade about 8 A. M. on the 11th instant. I have written for further particulars of this affair, and shall not fail to report them should they be of any importance. I

have also informed the Jemadar that on such occasions he ought always, if possible, to be accompanied by Police to prevent the possibility of our own people being fired upon. He has also been cautioned against the barbarous practice of sending in human heads as a proof of his having been engaged with an enemy. The accompanying Map will shew the exact spot on which this affair took place.

Memorandum from MAJOR J. C. HAUGHTON, Officiating Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier,—(No. 27, dated the 4th September 1862.)

FORWARDED to the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in continuation of this Office Memorandum No. 22 of the 28th ultimo, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From W. H. BROWNLOW, ESQ., Extra Assistant Commissioner, Nowgong, to the Agent, Governor General, North-East Frontier, Gowhatty,—(No. 122, dated the 29th August 1862.)

SIR,

IN reply to your letter No. 21 of the 25th instant, I have the honor to state that two or three marauding bands of Garrows (Khassiahs) seem to infest the Singeemaree and Amola Mouzahs. One of these bands, it is reported, is headed by a Bengalee living in the Khassiah Hill jurisdiction, and I have issued warrants for his apprehension, as well as of those of his confederates who have been recognised. Nothing, however, has been heard of since I stationed a Guard there, and there seems to be no discontent among the natives.

From the HON'BLE A. EDEN, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Officiating Commissioner of Assam,—(No. 3372, dated the 26th September 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge the receipt of the correspondence forwarded under your Endorsements Nos. 22 and 27, dated, respectively, the 20th ultimo and the 4th instant, regarding the incursion of a party of Khassiahs into the village Duckin-Sohoree.

2. In reply I am to state that native Officers in charge of Detachments should be most strictly prohibited from undertaking expeditions

without orders, and no offensive operations of any sort should be undertaken by the Military Authorities except on the requisition of the Civil Authority of the District, and even when acting on such requisition some Civil Officer of a grade not lower than that of a Darogah should accompany the party.

3. The practice of cutting off the heads of the enemy and sending them in as a trophy of success is one which calls for much stronger notice than has been taken of it by the Local Officers. You are requested to see that it is immediately discontinued.

From CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, to the Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(dated the 20th September 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward copy of a letter, received late yesterday afternoon, from the Officer Commanding at Nurteng, reporting the state of feeling at that village, Nungba and Nongjoongee, which last village has been deserted. My Police further inform me that they have heard at Nurteng that the Rebel Chiefs have held a Durbar and have come to the conclusion that the reason of Government offering the amnesty is that they are afraid and that their wisest plan, therefore, is to hold out.

I remark that, unless the Cherra Rajah is playing a double game, which I have no reason to suspect, the probabilities are that the Chiefs of the Rebels are divided in opinion; those who have suffered the least being desirous of holding out, whilst those whose villages and provisions have been destroyed are anxious to avail themselves of the amnesty.

2. I propose proceeding to Nurteng forthwith, and, if possible, removing the Guard now at Nongjoongee to Nungba before the villagers of the latter desert.

The loyalty of the Nongjoongee people has always been questionable. It may be that, on the withdrawal of the Troops to Nungba, the villagers of Nongjoongee may return, whilst the presence of Troops at Nungba may overawe the disaffected.

3. The 33rd Native Infantry is quite a young Corps and has suffered severely, during their occupation of this Hills, from sickness.

I respectfully suggest their being relieved by a Corps of full strength. I further beg to suggest the necessity of sending up a Howitzer Train. At present what with sickness, the necessity of supplying escorts for provisions, &c., the Troops are not in a position to undertake offensive operations, even if the weather admitted of their doing so.

Copy of a letter from LIEUTENANT T. SADLIER, Commanding at Nurteng, to COLONEL RICHARDSON, Commanding in the Hills,—(dated the 19th September 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report, for your information, that the villagers have deserted Nongjoongee, taking with them all their cattle and goods. The Dolloye of this village (Nurteng) says that the Rebels will not allow the Nurteng people to cut their crops unless they promise to keep the dhan in the jungles: he also says that he will not be able to prevent his villagers joining the Rebels unless they are protected whilst cutting their crops. Sometime ago he sent three men to tell the Rebels of the amnesty. Of these, two are prisoners in the hands of the Rebels, and one has been sent back to say that, unless all the Troops are withdrawn from the Hills and their Rajah reinstated, the Rebels won't come in. They say they have enough dhan stored for another year. To-day some men from Nungba came and spent a long time in the Dolloye's house. The Dolloye has since been twice up to me. He seems to be in a great fright and says the Nungba men will go in a day or two. I much require an interpreter.

COPY of the above correspondence has been forwarded to the Commissioner of Assam.

From the HON'BLE A. EDEN, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division,—(No. , dated the 3rd October 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to forward to you, in original, two letters, dated 20th September, from the Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills, in order that if you are of opinion that the 33rd Native Infantry should be relieved by another

Regiment, and that a Howitzer Train should be sent up to the Cossyah Hills, the necessary steps may be taken with the sanction of the Government of India.

2. The return of the original letters is requested.

From BRIGADIER-GENERAL ST. G. D. SHOWERS, C. B., Commanding Presidency Division, to the HON'BLE A. EDEN, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 372, dated the 4th October 1862.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 3rd October, Judicial, with the enclosure, from the Deputy Commissioner, Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills.

In reply I have the honor to state that I consider it very desirable, as the 33rd Native Infantry has been so sickly in the Cossyah Hills, that the men should be relieved, and I will take steps to expedite the dispatch of the 21st Native Infantry under orders for the North-East Frontier to take the place of the 33rd Native Infantry.

On the subject of sending a Howitzer Train to the Hills I shall have the honor to report hereafter.

I beg to return the enclosure from Captain Morton, of which I have directed a copy to be made.

From the HON'BLE A. EDEN, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to CAPTAIN B. W. D. MORTON, Deputy Commissioner of the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills,—(No. 3496, dated the 9th October 1862.)

SIR,

I AM directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 20th ultimo, with its enclosure, regarding the state of feeling among the inhabitants of certain Cossyah villages, and the supposed intentions of the Rebel Chiefs, and urging the necessity of dispatching to the Hills a full Regiment in the place of the 33rd Native Infantry, and also a Howitzer Train.

2. In reply I am desired to forward a copy of a letter No. 372, dated the 4th instant, from Brigadier-General Showers, C. B., and to inform you that, besides the Regiment which the Military Authorities may send to the Hills to relieve the 33rd Native Infantry, the

Lieutenant-Governor has ordered the Head-Quarters and Right Wing of the Kamroop Regiment to proceed to Sylhet, where they will be available should any necessity arise for their employment.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor has, however, instructed me to state that information subsequently received by him on the subject leads him to suppose that you have taken a more unfavorable view of the intentions of the Cossyahs than the circumstances reported justify, and that they are really intending to accept the offer of pardon, which has been held out to them, and to submit themselves to the authority of the Government.

4. His Honor therefore expects you to use all forbearance with the Cossyahs and to make every exertion to induce them to come in, even though they should not seem disposed to respond to the overtures of forgiveness made to them so readily as might, in your judgment, have been expected.

5. In dealing with these people you must make every allowance for their ignorance and suspicions, and must not argue, from the obstinacy of a few, that the disposition of the whole tribe is averse to reconciliation and to a peaceful return to their homes.

6. In the event, however, of its being necessary to have recourse again to the action of Troops, their operations must be strictly confined to the capture of persons actually in rebellion, and all appearance of hostility towards the Cossyahs as a tribe must be avoided. There must be no burning of villages or crops, no further destruction of property, no punishment inflicted on persons not actually in resistance to the Government. The objects to be aimed at in this event should be the attack and dispersion of all armed bodies of men; the capture of actual offenders, especially chiefs, leaders, or instigators; and the protection of the lives and property of all who shew a disposition to resume their ordinary occupations and remain quietly within their villages, especially women and children. The operations, in short, should, as far as possible, be regarded and felt by those engaged in them as operations of Police for the suppression of crime rather than those of warfare with an enemy.

7. You should also remember that the desire of the Government is to inspire confidence in the people and restore order and tranquillity to the District, and that to attain this we must carefully abstain from

all acts of indiscriminate severity and confine ourselves to the punishment of those who are really guilty, instead of holding whole villages responsible for the crimes of a few of their inhabitants, and involving all in one common calamity.

8. As Civil Officer of the District you are responsible for the just treatment of all who are subject to your authority, and it is your clear duty to see that, if the employment of Troops is necessary to support the Police in the suppression of crime and the apprehension of offenders, they do not exceed their duty.

No. 3497.

Copy forwarded to the Commissioner of Assam for information.

No. 3498.

Copy forwarded to Brigadier-General Showers, c. b., Commanding the Presidency Division for information.

From the Hon'ble A. Eden, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to Captain H. R. Prew, Commandant of the Kamroop Regiment, Furreedpore,—(No. 3499, dated the 9th October 1862.)

Sir,

I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to request that you will proceed with the Head-Quarters and Right Wing of your Corps to Sylhet, and there hold yourself and your men in readiness for employment in the Cossyah and Jynteeah Hills should the Deputy Commissioner of the District require your services.

2. You will communicate with the Commissioner of Dacca with a view to the immediate relief of any of your men who may be now employed on Civil duties and to your being furnished with the necessary means for proceeding to Sylhet.

No. 3500.

Copy forwarded to the Commissioner of Dacca for his information and guidance.

No. 3501.

Copy forwarded to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces for information.

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